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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT & SALT

Conventional Arms Limitation Talks To Begin in Mexico [Kornilov]	AA 1
Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Delegations Meet in Geneva	AA 2
Regular SALT Meeting Held in Geneva 29 Nov	AA 2

CSCE/WGPA

Kornilov Says Warsaw Pact Will 'Insure Defense Potential'	CC 1
Economic Achievements Cited [Nikolayev]	CC 2

GENERAL

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Birjukov, Volakiy, Gvayannikov]	A 1
Increasing Military Expenditures	A 1
Middle East Events	A 2
Iranian Developments	A 3
Peking Campaign	A 5
UN Approves Soviet Proposal on Nonnuclear States [Vasilets]	A 8
SRV UN Representative on 'Peking's Expansionism'	A 9

UNITED STATES

U.S.-USSR Trade, Economic Commissions To Meet in Moscow	B 1
Commerce Secretary Kreps Arrives	B 1
Treasury Secretary Blumenthal Arrives	B 1
Joint U.S.-USSR Agriculture Commission Ends Session [Ivanov]	B 2
Carter Says 'No Obstacles' to Speedy SALT Agreement	B 2
'Two Opposing Trends' Noted in U.S. Trade Policy [Petrusenko in IZVESTIYA 29 Nov]	B 3
Young American Legislators Visit USSR	B 4
Despite Corruption, U.S. Officials Still Preach to Others [Zorin]	B 5
NY TIMES Cited on 'Radical Revision' of Nuclear Strategy	B 6

CHINA

Wallposters Attack Communist Party Vice-Chairman	C 1
PRC Criticized for Supporting Waga, Nizro Rebels in India	C 1

EAST EUROPE

Bulgaria. GDR Support Warsaw Pact Declaration	D 1
Czech Paper Supports Warsaw Pact Meeting	D 2
Friendship Society Session Marks Albanian Liberation Day [PRAVA 30 Nov]	D 2

WEST EUROPE & CANADA

Commentary on USSR-PRG Economic Cooperation [Krasnov in IZVESTIYA 26 Nov]	E 1
Preparations for Spanish Constitution Referendum Noted	Z 3
Electorate Rises; Voting Age Lowered [Medvedevsk]	E 3
Ultrarightists Threaten Disruption	E 3
Spanish Foreign Minister Aguirre To Visit USSR in January	E 4
Corrections to Item on Spanish Trade Minister's Interview	E 4

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Iranian Demonstrations Continue; General Strike Called For	F 1
Army Deployed to Oil Refineries	F 1
Khomeini Calls for General Strike	F 1
2 Dec TASS Report	F 2
3 Dec TASS Report	F 3
Western Journalists Attacked	F 3
Peace and Progress Reports Israeli Delegation's Visit	F 4
Interview With Israeli CP Official	F 4
Soviet Media Continue To Comment on Israeli-Egyptian Talks	F 5
Apparent Deadlock in Talks	F 5
Egyptian 'Capitulation' Scored [Timoshkin]	F 6

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Development of Soviet-Turkish Trade Relations Viewed [Kozlov]	G 1
Greek Opposition Party Questions U.S. Bases in Country	G 1
Moscow Criticizes NATO Activities in Eastern Mediterranean [Suyetina]	G 2

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Namibia 'Elections' To Be Held 4 December	H 1
SWAPO Leaders Arrested	H 1
Najoma Interview	H 1
SWAPO Condemnation	H 2
West 'Will Do Everything It Can' To Preserve South Africa	H 2
Ethiopian Army Takes Karen From Eritrean 'Separatists' [Korovikov in PRAVA 30 Nov]	H 3
Reports on Uganda-Tanzania Fighting 'Contradictory' [Lykhanov]	H 3

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan's Taraki Arrives in Soviet Union 4 Dec	J 1
TASS Interview	J 1
Kabul Departure	J 2
Moscow Arrival	J 2
Land Reform Law 'Major Event' in Afghanistan	J 2

INDOCHINA

Council of Ministers Ratifies DRV Friendship Treaty	L 1
Vietnamese Ratification	L 1
Kampuchean National Unity Front Established	L 1

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Japanese CP Successes in Midterm Elections Noted [Bakovetskiy]	M 1
Japanese Socialist Party Draft Platform Reviewed [Ivanov]	M 1
Japanese Nuclear Information Center Formed	M 2

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Gorbachev Budget Report at 19 Nov Supreme Soviet Session [PRAVDA 30 Nov]	R 1
Preparatory Commission Examines Shortcomings in Agriculture [Kurasov in INVESTIYA 17 Nov]	R 16
Shitikov Chairs Meeting of Parliamentary Group in Kremlin	R 17

CONVENTIONAL ARMS LIMITATION TALKS TO BEGIN IN MEXICO

LDO11330Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1218 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

["Important Negotiations"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 1. TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes: The latest, fourth, round of Soviet-American negotiations on limiting the sales and delivery of conventional weapons will begin in Mexico City in the next few days. The achievement of real progress in this field would undoubtedly be a significant contribution to the cause of curbing the arms race and consolidating detente. It is quite natural that the forthcoming negotiations should attract considerable attention among the international public and press.

The negotiations are beginning in a period when the United States, known to be the world's largest arms supplier, is continuing, contrary to Washington's promises, to step up the scale of its arms deals. According to press reports, U.S. sales of arms abroad this year have already reached a record figure of \$13.7 billion (in 1977, the figure was \$11.4 billion). The lion's share of these weapons with the "Made in USA" mark are being sent to the most explosive parts of the world, primarily the Near East.

In the current fiscal year, the total value of U.S. military exports, according to the prediction made by the head of the Pentagon's program for sales of military equipment abroad, will increase to at least \$14.4 billion. Realistic politicians and the public in general are becoming increasingly active in their demands for an end to the dangerous "arms boom" and for the achievement of constructive methods of limiting the international arms trade.

The main task facing the participants in the Mexico City talks is to create a political basis for the solution of the problem under consideration and to work out appropriate international criteria. Such criteria must take account both of the need to limit arms sales and of the legitimate interests of peoples struggling against aggression and for their liberty and independence. These international-legal criteria must be augmented by criteria of a military-technical nature, which must specify exactly the kinds of arms and the exact conditions subject to limitations, the extent of the limitations, etc. In the course of the Mexico City negotiations, certain regional aspects of the problem can also be considered. Participants can take into account the fact that a number of world states are themselves coming out in favor of placing limitations on the arms trade.

Observers, touching on the forthcoming negotiations in Mexico City, also note with full justification the fact that, although these bilateral negotiations are very important, the problem of curbing the "arms boom" as a whole can only be solved by an agreement to cooperate among all states now acting as arms suppliers.

The negotiations in Mexico City will be closed. This is understandable, considering the complexity of these negotiations and their connection with the military-material aspects of state policy. It is all the more important to facilitate the creation of a serious, businesslike atmosphere both at the negotiations themselves and around them, for various kinds of speculation and fabricated "sensations" about the possible results of the Soviet-American dialog, to which certain organs of the Western press are so often prone, can only harm the course of the negotiations. A serious matter demands, we repeat, a serious, businesslike atmosphere.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it, true to its high-principled policy of peace, consistently and persistently urges the cessation of the arms race, disarmament and a resolute curbing of the dangerous "arms boom." This position of the USSR is shared and supported by the other socialist countries. In the Warsaw Pact declaration adopted recently in Moscow, these states resolutely expressed themselves in favor of the speedy conclusion of the negotiations on limiting the sale and delivery of conventional weapons.

NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA

LD271840Y Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 27 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, November 27, TASS--Delegations of the USSR, United States and Great Britain held a meeting at the current negotiations here with a view to elaborate a treaty on full and universal prohibition of nuclear weapon tests.

REGULAR SALT MEETING HELD IN GENEVA 29 NOV

LD291552Y Moscow TASS in English 1506 GMT 29 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, November 29, TASS--A regular meeting of the USSR and U.S. delegations was held here today at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms.

KORNILOV SAYS WARSAW PACT WILL 'INCREASE DEFENSIVE POTENTIAL'

12021440Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1000 GMT 2 Dec 78 ED

["On Guard for Peace and in the Interests of Detente"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 2. TASS--Political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The military budgets of NATO members are continuing to grow; the United States is beginning production of new types of lethal weapons; in West Europe demonstrations of "military muscle" are being planned....A day does not go by without similar reports from the Western capitals. Over the last 10 years NATO countries have expended \$1.3 trillion on military preparations, and almost 50 percent of this colossal spending has come within the last 4 years. Evidence of even larger military allocations planned for the future can be seen in the decisions of the Washington NATO Council session, obliging bloc members to increase military expenditures by 3 percent annually over a period of 5 years. By these decisions and other NATO actions, which have the character of military demonstrations, the Atlantic bloc countries are seeking to gain military supremacy over the socialist states with the goal of dictating their will to other countries--above all the socialist countries--and suppressing the people's struggle for national and social liberation.

The actions of the imperialist and militarist forces trying to torpedo detente are meeting a due rebuff: Tendencies toward lessening international tension are influencing the progress of world affairs. The struggle of peoples for peace, for curbing the arms race and for equal cooperation is growing ever wider. At the vanguard of this struggle are the peoples of the fraternal socialist states. The conclusions formulated in the declaration recently adopted in Moscow by the Political Consultative Committee are fresh and weighty confirmation of the unshakable adherence of the Warsaw Pact's members to the policies of a relaxation of tension, and of their resolve to achieve a deepening of this process. The Warsaw Pact has again come forward as a powerful and effective factor for peace and stability in international relations.

Nonetheless, it is completely understandable that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries cannot fail to heed the military preparations and intrigues of aggressive imperialist forces. The Soviet state and our socialist friends and allies have always stood and continue to stand for peace. The peoples of the socialist states have never and do not intend to engage in sabre-rattling: to do so would be alien to the very nature of socialist foreign policy and would run counter to our convictions and principles.

However--and this must be said quite definitely--a love of peace does not have, and of course cannot have, anything in common with weakness. It is quite evident that the arms race being conducted by and being constantly whipped up by the NATO states, will make it necessary to preserve and strengthen the defensive potential of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact.

Of course, military expenditure is a serious burden for the economies of all states, including the socialist ones.

However, it is clear that in conditions when, together with the significant positive changes in Europe and the world which express the peoples' will and aspirations, the forces of imperialism and reaction have become noticeably more active--forces which are striving to hinder the radical improvement in the international political climate--and when imperialist circles are openly nurturing dangerous military plans, such expenditure is unavoidable and necessary. The Warsaw Pact states have done and will continue to do everything necessary to insure that the defensive potential of the Joint Armed Forces of this pact continue to be at a proper level and that the armed forces of the fraternal socialist states continue to have at their disposal all that is necessary to fulfil their responsible task--to guard the peaceful labor of the people of these states and be a bulwark of universal peace.

Economic Achievements Cited

LXD2326Y Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Now, a commentary of the results of the recent conference in Moscow of the leaders of seven socialist countries, members of the Warsaw Treaty. The commentary, was written by our observer, Yuriy Nikolayev.

The main result of the conference is that its delegates have reaffirmed their unshakable adherence to the policy of easing tensions. Proposals were put forward on what should be done to curb the arms race and to start disarmament. To achieve this, the socialist countries have pledged to cooperate still closer in the field of foreign policy while insuring complete respect of each other's sovereign rights. The socialist countries cooperate in various spheres, in foreign policy, economics, ideology and culture. This is the cooperation of genuinely equal partners. It is based on respect of independence and it takes into account national interests. At the same time the partners widely practise mutual support and assistance. Taken in general these are the principles of socialist internationalism. This is a new type of international relations and, as participants in the Moscow conference have indicated, it has a great impact on present-day world development. The socialist countries follow this road because it guarantees best the interests of every nation building a new society because it insures a steady growth in the prestige of socialism and enhances the role of socialist countries in renovating international life.

Here are some facts. In the economic field the socialist community demonstrates [words indistinct]. Members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have increased industrial production 12-fold since the organization was founded less than 30 years ago. There is complete employment in the socialist countries and the living standards of their population go up steadily. A closing gap in the level of national economic development is another important factor. To even up these levels is one of the targets of the Council's complex program of integration.

The plans the socialist countries are carrying out--assisting each other as comrades--are plans of peaceful, creative endeavor. It is therefore natural that on the international scene the socialist states consistently work for peace.

The successful outcome of the all-European conference and a number of other major accomplishments of the process of relaxation of tension are largely due to their joint moves. To make this process irreversible and spread it to the whole world is one of the tasks the socialist countries have set before themselves and at the Moscow conference they have declared once again that they intend to attain this goal in close cooperation with each other and with peace-loving forces all over the world.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LEO31820V Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

('International Observers Roundtable' with Askold Biryukov, Dmitriy Volaskiy and Anatoliy Ovsyannikov--not further identified)

[Text] [Ovsyannikov] Good day comrades. The attention of the world public and the mass media have recently been focussed on events in Moscow, particularly the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet which began work immediately after the CPSU Central Committee plenum. The plenum provided a profound and comprehensive analysis of Soviet economic development. The speech delivered to the plenum by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, as the foreign press has noted, set forth the new tasks that will generate a further upsurge in the Soviet economy, raise the people's standard of living and strengthen our states' defensive might.

Another subject of continued comment abroad are the decisions of the Moscow conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact participants. This conference confirmed socialist efforts to reinforce the detente process, to bring a halt to the arms race and to move toward disarmament.

The peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and the democratic public throughout the world have approved of the results of the conference. A negative response was manifest only in those Western circles that dream of a return to the cold war.

Increasing Military Expenditures

[Volaskiy] In this connection, Anatoliy Ivanovich, I would like to note the negative statements and also the actions of the NATO bill leaders. For example, the joint session of the NATO foreign and defense ministers opens tomorrow in Brussels. It is reported that they have not met to discuss questions related to constructive steps they might take in response to the proposals by Warsaw Pact states. Instead, they will deal with quite a different, contrary set of questions, such as, for instance, deployment of the neutron bomb in Western Europe, the ANACS early warning system, increasing the nonnuclear armaments of NATO, plans for interfering in Iranian affairs, and so on.

[Biryukov] I would like to point out that in the United States, as the completion of the SALT talks draws near, the militarist propaganda campaign grows more intense. One after another, we see the appearance of programs directed at further expanding the arms race. Billions of extra dollars have already been allocated for a new civil defense program, for production and deployment of the ground-launched MX intercontinental ballistic missile, and for Trident submarines. A plan has been put forward for the so-called "air-mobile program," which provides for deployment of hundreds of missiles in containers carried in large transport planes that are constantly kept in the air and which, when they have landed, provide a launching site for the missiles. The estimated cost of this program is \$40-50 billion.

A typical observation in this connection is the statement of an American observer, Pinous, that was printed recently in the Washington POST. The United States, he wrote, is beginning its largest program in the last decade for production of nuclear weaponry.

[Ovsyannikov] It is necessary to stress that the American public and many representatives of U.S. business circles are opposed to increases in the country's military expenditure. The arms race, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR points out in alarm, has been transformed into official U.S. policy. White House officials are calling on the President to increase military expenditures for the new fiscal year. The New York TIMES has noted that the President has confirmed his intention to increase real military expenditure, taking account of inflation, by 3 percent per annum. As a result, the Pentagon's allocations for next year will comprise approximately 25 percent of all federal expenditures.

Pointing to a pernicious influence of increases in military expenditure on the country's economy, the New York TIMES wrote: Practically all economists agree that military expenditure contributes to an increase in inflation. Moreover, increasing military expenditure will lead to a reduction in jobs which might have been created in coming years and mean a loss in possibilities for further developing nonmilitary technology. This is linked to the fact that there are more and more specialists--already 1/3 of U.S. scientists and engineers--being engaged in military projects. As a result, the United States, the paper stressed, is seriously lagging behind other developed industrial countries in civilian labor productivity and in technical progress.

[Vol'skiy] It is said that such views are being expressed particularly by U.S. business circles. Among those holding such views are a number of realistically minded businessmen who understand that it is not the path of the arms race but of trade and economic cooperation with the Soviet Union that should now be followed. Incidentally, such businessmen have now arrived in Moscow for a very important meeting with Soviet representatives. Its results will be known next week.

Middle East Events

[Ovsyannikov] In our broadcast, we would also like to dwell on Near East events. The main political tendencies of these events are now very clearly marked. Above all we see the strengthening of unity among the Arab countries, manifest at the recent Baghdad conference, and the strengthening of solidarity among their progressive forces. In this regard we may recall the statement on the Near East by the socialist countries that was published just a few days ago, and also the message Leonid Ilich Brezhnev addressed to Yasir 'Arafat in connection with the day of solidarity with the Palestinian struggle. These are the prevailing tendencies, are they not, Dmitriy Antonovich?

[Vol'skiy] Quite so, Anatoliy Ivanovich. I would only add that just now, within the last few days, there has been a striking manifestation of unity, of the desire of the Arab countries and peoples to rally their efforts. For example, in Damascus there has been another meeting of the leading Syrian and Iraqi figures so as to improve coordination of their actions. This is striking, because these countries were recently in conflict with each other. In Amman, King Husayn has received the leaders of the Palestinian movement, with whom he had been in a position of confrontation for a great many years.

But unfortunately, there is also another tendency. This is manifest in the continuing attempts to implement the Camp David deal. But this has not been easy. As-Sadat, the press writes, would have long since signed the separate agreement with Israel had he not been afraid of further isolating his government in the Arab world. Nevertheless, the Egyptian-Israeli talks demonstrate the increasing inflexibility of position by Begin's government.

It is no accident, it is generally thought, that Begin is trying to achieve precisely this kind of separate deal with Egypt while avoiding even purely formal concessions on the Palestinian question. But, as it is now becoming clear, Egypt in this arrangement is being allotted a role which would be difficult to envy.

Recently, the Paris newspaper LE MONDE reported that several large Israeli firms are preparing to storm the Egyptian market, but they are hastily looking to create some sort of structural management organs for future joint enterprises in which, as LE MONDE writes, the Israelis will play the role of administrators and engage in marketing products while the Egyptians will provide the labor force. Not in vain, then, is it said that in giving up the Sinai Israel intends to take possession of all Egypt.

But is it only Egypt? Here is another extract from the same financial circles in Israel are nurturing the hope that Tel Aviv will come to replace Beirut as the major financial center of the Near East. It is quite clear that herein is concealed one of the basic latent calculations which prompts the Israeli expansionists, while securing their rear through the Camp David deal, to provoke a new outbreak of war in Lebanon. It is doubtful that anyone could be pleased with such a dangerous turn of events.

This is what was reported recently by one American journalist: In objective military and diplomatic circles in Washington and European capitals, it is unanimously believed that the general situation in the Near East has grown seriously worse following the Camp David agreements and the beginning of the peace talks between Israel and Egypt. The position of the majority of Arab states has begun to look more just and constructive. At the meeting in Baghdad, the Arab leaders rejected the Camp David agreements and everything connected with them, calling on Arab countries to coordinate their actions. And it is precisely the results of the Baghdad conference that are determining the course of events in the Arab world. Of particular significance here is the fact that even the so-called moderate, and even conservative Arab countries are adhering to these decisions. Why? It is, I think, because they understand that to join in Cairo's capitulationist course would serve to undermine their own prestige.

But perhaps something else is more important now. Israel's provocative position is increasingly serving to disillusion those elements of the Arab bourgeoisie, that had counted on obtaining important benefits from a partnership with Tel Aviv. Begin's government does not need partners, it needs satellites. And, as is evident, this is becoming even clearer.

[Ovseyanikov] Dmitry Antonovich, you have given us an analysis of the latest Near East events. But I tend to think that the situation which has come about throughout the entire area of the Near and Middle East could be altered by the recent events in Iran.

Iranian Developments

[Volskiy] Yes, that is true, and to a certain extent, Anatoliy Ivanovich, it is already possible to foresee some possible consequences of the Iranian events on other states in the Near East. For instance, even a temporary reduction, or, more dramatically the halt of oil exports from Iran again brings to the fore the oil-related aspects of the Near East situation, which of late seem to have been overshadowed.

Observers also note that the events in Iran are depriving the so-called armed rectangle-- Tehran, Tel Aviv, Cairo and Riyadh--that was being set up by imperialist strategists to influence the situation in the volatile region, of an important prop. Surely the agitated and excited masses of people in the streets of Tehran and Shiraz will make the powers that be on the other side of the Persian Gulf stop to ponder a number of cardinal political issues.

As far as the events in Iran itself is concerned, it looks as if the new government of General Ashari has been unable to cope with the situation. But the fact that the imperialist forces are striving to interfere in this internal conflict presents a new danger. The CIA and the Pentagon have been joined, as we said at the beginning of our talk, by the Atlantic bloc. Above all, the masters of this bloc are looking at the oil deposits in Iran, where in recent years about 300 million tons of oil have been extracted. In terms of oil exports, Iran occupies second place after Saudi Arabia.

[Ovsyannikov] But they also see it as a large market for arms.

[Volskiy] That is true, these arms are purchased with income derived from oil exports and are purchased primarily from the United States. On a wider and more global level, the ruling circles of the West, and the press which expresses their views, see Iran in the context of their strategic position. Here, for instance, is what the DAILY TELEGRAPH, the London newspaper writes: The events in Persia, which is what it calls Iran in the old colonialist terminology dating from the time of the British Empire, are causing deep concern at NATO headquarters in Brussels, the Ministry of Defense in Peking and the Pentagon in Washington.

On this occasion, too, the anti-Soviet insinuations, usual in such cases, have not been lacking. Senator Byrd, President Carter's special envoy who visited Tehran a few days ago, did not refrain from them. Western observer Middleton felt, no more and no less, that Iran is being run by the Russians. Well, if external factors are influencing the purely internal conflict in Iran, they are from quite another country. It is no secret that tens of thousands of emissaries of the Pentagon and the CIA have flooded into Iran and that their numbers are growing.

[Ovsyannikov] One would expect that the answer by Comrade Brezhnev to the question of a PRAVDA correspondent, published on 19 November, could not fail to act as a coldshower on the hothouse. Let me remind you that, among other things, this answer stressed that any interference, let alone military interference, in Iran's affairs, a state directly bordering on the USSR, would be regarded by the Soviet Union as affecting its security interests.

[Volskiy] And, of course, sensible people across the ocean must realize this. The American CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, for example, has expressed a very sober point of view. Military interference, the paper writes, is absolutely unthinkable. Iran is an immediate neighbor of the USSR, and if the United States moved its armed forces close to the border with the Soviet Union it would be a frightful mistake. A great power simply cannot reconcile itself to the presence of the armed forces of another great power so close to its borders. And, apropos of the invisible intervention by American special services, reasonable apprehensions are also being expressed.

This is to say that times are changing, whether people in Washington and other Western capitals want it to or not. History does not know returns to the past, only zigzags. But these zigzags are at times very dangerous for the cause of strengthening peace.

This is shown by the African example. It is evident that the racist regimes in the South of the continent are an historical anomaly and one that threatens very grave consequences. The racists are now appealing on the grounds that they are allegedly a prop for the West. Botha, the new South African prime minister, has said in this regard: I believe that South Africa is an important and integral part of the free world, and that the free world could not survive without the Republic of South Africa. In the same vein, Ian Smith has been playing up to reaction ever since his October visit to Washington, and at the same time illustrating, what he is hinting at. The Rhodesian racist authorities have launched a series of attacks on the neighboring independent states of Zambia, Mozambique and Botswana. The conclusion inevitably arises that the Rhodesian racists, who, only through Western support, have been able to preserve their unlawful regime, are now endeavoring to draw their patrons into a large war in southern Africa, which they are provoking. And South Africa, under the new Botha government, in making aggressive forays against Angola, is clearly preparing to join in this risky game. It must be assumed that Botha arrived in Washington at the end of last week to discuss plans of this type.

Peking Campaign

[Ovsyannikov] Thank you, Dmitry Antonovich. Now we would like to go on to another theme. Our listeners are already aware of the wave of tetrupac and leaflets which in recent weeks have inundated the citizens capital. They have been criticizing the events of the so-called "Cultural Revolution" and also the final period of Mao's tenure of power, and the persons responsible for them. Outwardly, the fire of the tetrupac is directed against the so-called gang of four led by Chiang Ching, Mao's wife. But in actual fact the criticism reflects on Mao himself and the state of affairs that existed under him, and also on some of the current leading figures in Peking. I should like to ask you, Askold Aleksandrovich, to speak in more detail about this campaign in Peking.

[Birjukov] Here it is necessary to recall that the start of this campaign was paved by the decision of the Peking Committee to review the tragic events of April 1976 in Peking. It was during those April days that a large number of working people appeared on the town's central Tiananmen Square. Some were laying wreaths and some of the participants in the peaceful demonstration began to express dissatisfaction with the existing state of affairs for all to hear. Then the town authorities and the security organs gave the order for the demonstrators to be dispersed. Many Peking citizens were cruelly beaten and many were arrested.

I would like to quote the words of one of tetrupac which describes this incident: The powers of the feudal-fascist dictatorship sent to suppress the unarmed people comprised 100,000 armed men from the public security and the police. The blood of the revolutionary people flowed in a river. A white terror enveloped the ancient forbidden city, Sun Yat-sen Park and the Palace of Culture of the working people, which were transformed into prisons and dungeons. Torture chambers sprang up throughout all of China. How many noble people perished tragically under the knives of the feudal-fascist dictatorship and in prisons. The People's Republic of socialism was transformed into a feudal-fascist Chinese empire. As a political structure, the People's Republic remained only a hollow name. The right to life, democratic rights and human rights were transformed into empty words and the constitution was reduced to a scrap of paper intended to deceive and stupefy the people.

Shortly after these events, the CCP Central Committee Politburo described the demonstration by working people on Tiananmen Square as a counterrevolutionary political incident and put the blame on Teng Hsiao-ping, then vice chairman of the PRC State Council, who was immediately removed from all his posts in the party and state. The author of the aforementioned tatrupo went on to write: It is impossible not to ask what happened to the rights to life and democracy and human rights, and if, after this, the name "people's republic" was necessary. If not, then it would be fitting to openly change the name to "feudal-fascist Chinese empire." Would that not simplify matters? If one leaves the name, then it is necessary to translate it into practice, and not cry out half seriously and half hypocritically about the political structure of a people's republic.

What can one say with regard to these descriptions of the state of affairs existing in the PRC? They most aptly describe the rule of arbitrariness and violence in that country and the social demagoguery with which the Peking leaders cloak their actions. It finally speaks about the grave dissatisfaction of the working masses with this state of affairs.

One of the tatrupo said that the gang of four used Mao Tse-tung's hand to crush people who took part in the Tiananmen Square demonstration. Others put the question of Mao's complicity in these events more sharply: They bluntly accuse him of being guilty of removing Teng from the political scene.

After a time, the tatrupo not only criticized the ruling elite's conduct during the Tiananmen events but also during the repression of the Cultural Revolution. They raised the question of the need to revise the old appraisal of this revolution--if you can call it that--and of punishing those responsible for its excesses and those who reached the peak of power by riding the crest of those events. The chain of complicity stretched from Wu Teh, a member of the CCP Central Committee Politburo who used to head the Peking City Party Committee, right up to Hua Guo-feng himself, who was head of the National Ministry for Public Security at the time of the Tiananmen events. When Teng Hsiao-ping was stripped of all his posts, it was Hua Guo-feng who was put at the top of China's party and government, where he remains to this day.

[Ovsyannikov] Like those of previous years, Askold Aleksandrovich, does the present tatrupo campaign reflect a power struggle between the various groups in the Chinese leadership?

[Biryukov] Yes, that is undoubtedly the case, and it is no accident that voices can be heard in this campaign defending Mao, his policy, and his system alongside those criticizing him. However, there are considerably fewer of these voices. Judging from all available evidence, this campaign is guided and its tone is set by those who suffered during the Cultural Revolution, primarily Teng Hsiao-ping and his people. One may wonder what they're after--why they decided to criticize the holy of holies, the late helmsman Mao and his system. Surely they don't really mean to abandon Maoism and bring democracy and justice back to the country? Not at all.

Judging by the direction which the true inspirers of the present tatrupo campaign are pointing, the aim is to consign to the archives just a few of Mao's tenets which impede the most rapid implementation of their four modernizations program. As you know, that program is intended to move China up so that by the end of the current century it will join the world's most powerful and advanced states.

This is to be done by modernizing industry, agriculture, science and technology, and the armed forces and the military industry. It is in order to implement that program that the ruling elite is now urging a restoration of legality and order in the system of education and special training and are introducing the concept of the principle of material incentives so that the working people will take an interest in the results of their work, and so on.

[Ovsyannikov] Playing up to the Chinese leaders, the Western press is writing almost as though this were the dawn of democracy in China. The reason is that the campaign's promoters are describing the wave of tatrupas as a way for the masses to express their aspirations. But is that really so?

[Birjukov] It should be pointed out here that as the tatrupas campaign has developed, some posters appeared whose contents were not along the lines the Peking leaders envisaged. Here are just a few examples of the way in which their writers present the issues. Where will China go? asks one. We need a genuinely Marxist-Leninist leadership. Down with imperialist power! Down with modern idols and graven images! Let us decisively fight all usurpers and dictators!

These posters were not on Peking's walls for long. The tatrupas criticizing Peking's foreign policy also vanished quickly.--like, for example, those which asked: Have Japanese and American imperialism ceased to exist, or is China becoming an imperialist state? Just like those between the Chinese and Japanese peoples, relations between the peoples of China and the USSR should be friendly from generation to generation. The opposition to the hegemonism of the two superpowers--the USSR and the United States--and the theory of the three worlds should be subjected to the test of practice and time--in other words, revised. It is not by chance that the Japanese communist newspaper AKAHATA appraised these latter tatrupas as criticism of China's current foreign policy which is incompatible with socialism's great principles and its logic.

Summing up what I have said, one can say that the current tatrupas campaign criticizing Mao and the tenets of his domestic policies--as you know, the Peking leaders are not throwing out Mao's tenets in foreign policy--is being waged from the right so as to blaze a trail for a rapprochement with the West and to take advantage of all the possibilities this may generate for turning China into a leading power.

[Ovsyannikov] And in this context, Askold Aleksandrovich, I feel it is no accident that the reaction from the U.S. press and officials in Washington to the present events in China shows that their attitude to them is very positive. It suits us, is in fact what they are saying unanimously. It suits them because the course of rapprochement with imperialism, regardless of the contradictions among the various groups within the Chinese leadership, remains the same, as does the cooperation on an anti-Soviet basis with any regime at all, including fascist ones, which is shown by Peking's cooperation with the Pinochet junta. It was not insignificant that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Holbrooke a few days ago described the Chinese events as being in harmony with American interests. He urged that the dialog with China be supported and strengthened since that dialog was now--as he put it--bearing fruit. And Holbrooke emphasized, too, and I quote, "Peking's wish to build build its might on a foundation of cooperation with the West and Japan"--a very indicative statement, I think, from a U.S. diplomat.

[Birjukov] Well, I would like to go back to the start of our discussions and to this tatrupas campaign.

At a meeting with a delegation of the Japanese Socialist Party at the end of November, Teng Hsiao-ping, deputy premier of the CCP State Council, said that the present tatanpao campaign confirmed the good health of Chinese society. He also said it would be a bad thing if the appearance of these posters were to be taken as a sign of some kind of disturbance. The leadership will not restrict the people's right to put up tatanpao and will not deprive them of that right, he asserted.

[Ovysannikov] And yet according to the latest reports, the putting up of tatanpao and this entire campaign is now being wound up?

[Biryukov] Yes indeed.

[Ovysannikov] On orders from above, most likely?

[Biryukov] Yes. According to reports from Peking, the Chinese authorities have banned mass meetings by the working people on Tiananmen Square so as, they claim, to maintain the country's stability and unity.

[Ovysannikov] Well, obviously they now fear that the wave started by the Chinese leadership itself or individuals in it might get out of control and sweep away the plans set for that venture.

[Biryukov] Quite true.

[Ovysannikov] We have quoted some U.S. officials. Now we should probably talk about the joint nature of some of the political actions they are now undertaking--foreign policy ones.

[Volskiy] Yes, a good deal could be said on that topic if the time left allowed it, but we can probably restrict ourselves to a few specific examples. A few days ago the *COURRIER DE POLITIQUE ETREANGERE*, published in Paris, reported that shortly before the people's revolution triumphed in Laos, the U.S. administration set aside \$40 million to finance the country's reactionary forces, and especially the supporters of the notorious General Vangpao. In early 1978, the United States offered the same \$40 million to Thailand to organize subversive activities against Laos from the former's territory. But the Thai Government turned the offer down.

Later, when Brzezinski, U.S. presidential adviser for national security affairs, went to China, he offered the same sum to China to support the genuine neutralists. The Chinese leaders, the journal reports, accepted the U.S. offer and dispatched their emissaries to Paris and Bangkok to establish contacts with Laotian emigre leaders. At the same time, the journal writes, Peking means to use the dollars to form and arm mutinous groups recruited from among the Hmoe and related tribes living in the PRC. The first groups thus formed have already made their appearance in two Laotian provinces, where they are provoking disorder among the local tribes and inciting them to oppose the Laotian Government.

[Ovysannikov] This cooperation between the imperialist powers and China convincingly sums up Peking's present hegemonistic policy, which does not conceal its sympathy for reactionary regimes. And on that, esteemed comrades, we end our round table discussion for today. Thank you for listening, and we wish you all the best.

UN APPROVES SOVIET PROPOSAL ON NONNUCLEAR STATES

LD0211008Y Moscow TASS in English 0558 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

["UNO: Soviet Initiative is Approved"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, December 2, TASS--Valentin Vasilets, a TASS correspondent, reports:

The Soviet proposal on concluding an international convention on strengthening guarantees of security for non-nuclear states was approved by the First Committee of the U.N. General Assembly. The resolution of this matter emphasizes the necessity to take effective political and international-law measures to strengthen security, and welcomes the determination of states in various parts of the world to keep their territories free of nuclear weapons. The Committee on Disarmament is instructed to consider as soon as possible the international convention drafts submitted to the 33rd session of the U.N. General Assembly. The resolution on concluding the international convention was co-authored by nineteen socialist and non-aligned countries of Asia and Africa. The Soviet initiative was widely supported during the discussion of this item on the agenda, in which representatives of more than fifty countries took part. The initiative was appraised as a manifestation of the USSR's sincere aspiration to secure the adoption of concrete steps leading ultimately to the normalization of the international political climate and to the lessening of danger of a nuclear conflict.

The implementation of the Soviet proposal, said Milan Vojvoda, representative of Czechoslovakia, would strengthen stability and trust in relations between states and would effectively limit a further build-up of the stocks of nuclear weapons. Carlos Ortiz de Rosas, permanent representative of Argentina at the United Nations, said the Soviet proposal is an important stage on the way to elimination of nuclear arsenals. Like the delegates of many other countries, he emphasized a particular importance of the fact that the nuclear power came forward with such an initiative.

The First Committee unanimously without voting also adopted a resolution which suggests that a world conference on disarmament be convened after an appropriate preparation as the most widely-representative forum for the discussion of the most important problems of our time.

DRV UN REPRESENTATIVE ON 'PEKING'S EXPANSIONISM'

LD021320Y Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New York, December 2, TASS--Ha Van Lam, permanent representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (DRV), at the United Nations, came forward with an exposure of Peking's adventurist policy which undermines peace and stability in Asia. A letter which he sent to the president of the U.N. Security Council points out that Peking's expansionist policy in Southeast Asia underlies the border conflict between Kampuchea and Vietnam. Peking's expansionist policy, the letter says, pursues first of all the aim of setting three Indochinese states at loggerheads and setting the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations against Vietnam and Laos. By splitting the countries of Southeast Asia, Peking is trying to establish a Chinese hegemony in the area. The letter emphasizes that the independent and sovereign Vietnam is the main obstacle to the realization of Peking's expansionist policy. The Chinese authorities, by using Kampuchean leaders, provoked the border conflict with Vietnam, and sent Chinese troops to occupy Pratael Islands, the letter points out. They invite Chinese living in Vietnam to riot, unilaterally annulled the commitments on assistance and cooperation with the DRV, encroach on the territorial integrity of our republic by invading its territory, and take many other hostile actions against Vietnam. By false propagandist assertions as to so-called "Vietnam's aggression against Kampuchea", Peking and Hanoi Peking seek to cover up their own crimes against the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples, and Peking's expansionist designs in Southeast Asia. In conclusion of the letter the permanent representative of the DRV points out that to keep peace and stability in the area it is necessary to put an end to the Peking authorities' expansionist policy in Southeast Asia.

U.S.-USSR TRADE, ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS TO MEET IN MOSCOW

Commerce Secretary Kreps Arrives

LD021654Y Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 2, TASS--U.S. Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps arrived here today. She will take part in the work of the seventh session of the USSR-USA Commission on Trade (4-5 December) and the 6th session of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council (6-7 December).

At the Sheremet'yev Airport she was met by First Deputy Foreign Trade Minister of the USSR Mikhail Kuzmin, Deputy Ministers Gennadiy Zhuravlev, Aleksey Manshukov and Vladimir Sushkov. Among those meeting the commerce secretary at the airport was the U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union Malcolm Toon.

Asked about prospects for Soviet-American trade, Juanita Kreps said: "I think the prospects are very good. We are here to discuss those in the course of the week and we expect to continue our frank, open discussions of ways that we can increase the two-way trade between our countries. I am indeed optimistic about the future of U.S.-USSR trade relations."

Also taking part in the work of the USSR-USA Commission on Trade and the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council will be U.S. Treasury Secretary M. Blumenthal who is due to arrive in Moscow on Sunday.

Treasury Secretary Blumenthal Arrives

LD032217Y Moscow TASS in English 2026 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 3, TASS--U.S. Secretary for the Treasury Michael Blumenthal arrived here today for attending the seventh session of the joint U.S.-USSR commercial commission and the sixth session of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council.

At Sheremet'yev Airport he was welcomed by First Deputy USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Mikhail Kuzmin, Deputy USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Aleksey Manshukov and other officials. U.S. Ambassador in the USSR Malcolm Toon was in the welcoming party.

Michael Blumenthal made the following statement for the press at the airport. I am happy to have this opportunity to visit Moscow again. I have pleasant memories of previous visits when I enjoyed the hospitality for which this nation is famous.

I am looking forward to the discussions which I will be having with Soviet leaders. I appreciate the opportunity to explore with them ways in which we can further develop economic relations between our two countries. On December 4 and 5, the secretary went on, I will participate, together with Secretary of Commerce Juanita Kreps in the seventh session of the joint U.S.-USSR commercial commission. We will review progress in strengthening economic ties between our countries and discuss ways of further developing our economic relations. We will also receive a report from the working group of experts which met here in Moscow on November 30 and December 1 to exchange information in accordance with the long-term agreement to facilitate economic, industrial and technical cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union.

On December 6 I will participate in the session of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council of which I am an honorary director, as is USSR Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Patolichev. The council, whose membership includes hundreds of leading American companies and their Soviet counterparts, will discuss means of promoting trade and industrial cooperation between Soviet and American enterprises.

In addition, I will meet with a number of Soviet leaders, exchanging views on economic matters of mutual interest. I greatly value the constructive discussions which take place during a visit such as this. We gain a better understanding of each other's positions and, I am sure, we shall find areas in which we can broaden the areas of cooperation between our two countries to mutual advantage, Secretary Blumenthal said.

Replying to a question from a TASS correspondent, Secretary Blumenthal said that his present visit to Moscow offers a good opportunity for (U.S.-) Soviet trade and economic relations with a view to making further progress. I think we have every opportunity to improve our relations in the sphere of trade and develop them in the future, he underlined.

JOINT U.S.-USSR AGRICULTURE COMMISSION ENDS SESSION

LD022256Y Moscow TASS in English 1948 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, December 2, TASS--TASS correspondent Boris Ivanov reports: The sixth session of the joint USSR-USA commission on cooperation in agriculture ended its deliberations here. It was held under the agreement between the Governments of the Soviet Union and the United States on cooperation in the field of agriculture signed in 1973. During the session, the two sides noted with satisfaction that the Soviet-American cooperation in the field of agriculture is developing on a mutually-advantageous basis, expressing firm resolve to contribute to its further expansion and effectiveness in order to arrive at useful practical results. The session charted concrete cooperation plans for 1979 providing for joint research efforts as well as implementing a broad programme to exchange delegations of specialists and experts in the field of agriculture. It also approved a number of research efforts to be undertaken in such major areas as growing new kinds of cereals, sugar beet and cotton, soil erosion control and creation of big automated complexes to process and store agricultural produce. The two sides also stressed the necessity of expanding exchange of economic information on various branches of agriculture.

Head of the U.S. Delegation, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Agriculture D. Hathaway, in an interview with a TASS correspondent, expressed satisfaction over the results of the commission's deliberations, stating that this session constituted another constructive step aimed at consolidating the cooperation between our countries. Implementation of concrete plans charted during the session of the commission, he stressed, will equally meet the interests both of the Soviet Union and the United States since it will help tackle a number of topical problems in the field of agriculture faced by the two countries respectively.

CARTER SEES 'NO OBSTACLES' TO SPEEDY SALT AGREEMENT

LD041252Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1210 GMT 4 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, TASS--President J. Carter has given an interview to editors of a number of U.S. newspapers.

Expressing assurances that the United States would continue its efforts to achieve the conclusion of the SALT talks with the Soviet Union, the President said:

"We are at present much nearer to a SALT agreement than before. I think we have entered the last stages of the talks. For the present I can see no obstacles to a speedy conclusion of a SALT agreement."

J. Carter noted further that questions pertaining to the Soviet-American SALT talks were being most meticulously studied and reviewed by his national security adviser, defense secretary, the secretary of state, P. Warnke, former head of the U.S. delegation to the talks, and the joint Chiefs of Staffs, or at least the chairman. The President spoke in favor of holding a Soviet-American summit meeting in the near future to sign a SALT agreement.

J. Carter was asked a number of questions in connection with Israel's and Egypt's attempts to speed up [forsirovat] the signing of the separate agreement through U.S. mediation. The President said he was disappointed by the slow progress following the Camp David conference concerning the final wording of the text of the agreement and all ... documents that will be appended to it. At the same time he stressed that he still "does not give up hope" that the agreement will be concluded.

'TWO OPPOSING TRENDS' NOTED IN U.S. TRADE POLICY

22011545Y Moscow INVESTIA in Russian 29 Nov 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Petrusenko article: "Opposing Trends"]

[Text] The substantial development in trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and the United States which was observed in the early seventies was not to the liking of certain U.S. circles. Despite their diversity, the unifying link was the fear that increased trade would lead to the consolidation of the material base of detente and detract from the interests of the military-industrial complex. The forces of imperialist reaction concentrated their fire on trade. They foisted on Congress the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the trade reform bill, which represented an attempt to make the development of economic ties conditional on interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs.

With the passage of 4 years since the adoption of this provocative amendment, it has become particularly clear that the U.S. side suffered as a result of it. This was acknowledged recently by BUSINESS WEEK, the U.S. business circles' organ. The journal reports that President J. Carter's administration intends to make the "first serious attempt to obtain the removal of the amendment" next year.

Among the reasons they name the government's desire to increase exports. This is understandable, since the U.S. trade deficit has now reached \$35 billion. In these conditions the administration cannot permit itself to disregard U.S. business circles' demands for the removal of discriminatory barriers against U.S. trade with the Soviet Union, especially as these demands are increasing.

A recent poll conducted among 250 major representatives of the U.S. business world showed that the majority are in favor of developing and deepening trade and economic ties, as this accords with both states' interests and promotes the resolution of many U.S. economic problems. The business circles' newspaper JOURNAL OF COMMERCE notes the appearance of signs of an improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations.

Thus, in the newspaper's opinion, both governments have come close to concluding a SALT agreement, which could notably improve the climate for U.S.-Soviet trade.

But at the same time the activity of those who oppose the development of relations between the two countries, including economic relations, is being stepped up. The U.S. press reports that the most zealous supporters of this line and the CIA and its former director, J. Schlesinger, now U.S. energy secretary. They are trying to put pressure on the White House, seeking a ban on export licenses to firms which conduct trade, in particular, in oil equipment.

Thus the opposing trends are in evidence. As for the U.S. public, it is increasingly clearly aware that mutually advantageous, equal trade accords with U.S. national interests. Attempts to restrain it give away those who are trying to flout these interests for the sake of dubious political goals.

YOUNG AMERICAN LEGISLATORS VISIT USSR

LSOJ2950Y Moscow TASS in English 2034 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Tut] Moscow, December 3, TASS--The delegation of the American Council of Young Political Leaders ended a visit to the Soviet Union. It included young senators and members of the House of Representatives of the legislative assemblies of different American states and was led by Assistant to the Secretary for Housing and Urban Development Elizabeth Raymond.

The young American parliamentarians visited Moscow, Leningrad, Baku--the capital of Soviet Azerbaijan. The program of their Soviet stay included more than seeing places of interest. The program centered on meetings with Soviet young people for discussing issues young citizens of the USSR and the USA take close to heart. At a seminar in Moscow they discussed the contributions of the youth of the two countries to improving understanding between the American and Soviet peoples, to strengthening the detente process and removing the threat of war.

The delegation of the American Council of Young Political Leaders met young deputies to the Supreme Soviets of the USSR and a number of union republics, familiarised themselves with the participation of Soviet youth in the work of legislative bodies, exchanged views. At the USSR Supreme Soviet the young U.S. political leaders were received by the chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities Vitaliy Ruben. [Moscow TASS in English at 1932 GMT on 1 December adds: "Gennadiy Yanayev, chairman of the USSR Committee of Youth Organizations, took part in the conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere."]

In an interview for a TASS correspondent the head of the delegation Elizabeth Raymond said the trip was very important and useful. The main purpose of the visit was for the young state political leaders to become familiar with the people, the problems and issues in the Soviet Union, to get the flavour of your system and become more familiar with the issues which concern both our countries. We assume that some of the Americans participating in these exchanges will go further in American politics.

It would be important therefore, for them to keep in touch with young Soviet parliamentarians who may also find themselves in the future in higher political offices in their country. Such contacts and exchanges promote better understanding of each other.

We discussed most varied problems with Soviet representatives, the head of the delegation went on. The main thing is that both our countries are more interested in peace than in anything else. Preserving peace on earth is a great duty of our countries.

Of course the language barrier is a significant barrier in understanding each other's problems. But as you become acquainted, that tends to become less of a problem.

We feel that it is important that detente continues and grows, Elisabeth Raymond stressed. If we have our mutual cooperation problems and make them on more friendly terms, then as time goes on, these friendly terms become normal. The American Council of Young Political Leaders will definitely continue these contacts and we expect Soviet parliamentarians very soon in the United States, in the middle of December, and we shall look forward to that meeting.

Howard Dennis, a young Republican in the Senate of Maryland, was greatly impressed by the Soviet people's striving for peace. The Soviet people that has experienced so much during the Second World War, wants no war, and comes out in a body for peace. I realized this after numerous talks in Moscow, Leningrad and Maku. The youth of the two countries can and must make their own contribution to the preservation of lasting peace on earth. I was greatly impressed by the great educative work carried out with Soviet youth in the YCL. This was my first trip to the Soviet Union and it is unforgettable, Howard Dennis said.

DESPITE CORRUPTION, U.S. OFFICIALS STILL PREACH TO OTHERS

LDO3054Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Valentin Zarin commentary]

[Text] The American Congress has passed a bill that seems to have attracted little public attention. The purpose of the bill is to end the corrupt practices that for decades have been eroding the government machinery. President after president has assured Americans he will put an end to corruption. Congress after Congress has tried to find some effective solution but corruption has continued to snowball. At long last a solution has been found: The bill passed in Congress would set up a bureau on ethics. Who would have thought there was such a simple solution?

The American public, however, seems indifferent to this great find. Perhaps people have doubts the new institution will be effective. It is indeed hard to believe persuasion alone will put an end to Washington's troubles. When the leaders of the present administration campaigned for election 2 years ago they solemnly promised to clean up politics. This promise is believed to be one of the main reasons why they won the elections. Now, 2 years later, few will claim the promise has been kept or even tackled, for that matter, though the present administration poses as a champion of high morals and does not hesitate to preach to other nations. In fact there have been a number of scandals in government in these 2 years.

In one, more than 100 members of Congress were found to have taken bribes from representatives of the South Korean dictator. The total sum was said to be about \$1 million annually. Yet so far action has been taken against only 1 of the 100 ex-congressmen, Otto E. Passman of Louisiana, who until recently was chairman of a House subcommittee of foreign aid.

But what is \$1 million a year compared with the \$25 billion that according to official figures American taxpayers are losing annually because of the wholesale corruption in federal institutions? A Department of Justice official, (Roger Edgar) said recently there wasn't a single government program that hadn't been affected by swindling. In the Department of Health, Education and Welfare alone in the last fiscal year \$7 billion were embezzled or squandered.

Corruption has been just as extensive in the Department of Housing and Urban Development and in the General Service Administration, too, where numerous cases of blackmail, extortion and falsification of the cost of equipment have come to light. In Washington alone, according to official figures, corrupt practices among officials have cost the nation more than \$66 million. Even men close to the White House have been found to have engaged in such practices. Just recall the scandals connected with the names of Bert Lance and (Patrick Bowen). Some may say such things can happen in any government. I'm inclined to think that all these instances are more a reflection of the general level of national morality.

Some time ago a representative of a United States corporation was arrested in Moscow on a charge of currency manipulations. This was not only a violation of Soviet law and a show of disrespect for a host country; it was a breach of ethics in general. The American businessman was found guilty in a court of law and was expelled from the Soviet Union though he deserved more severe punishment. One would have expected the American authorities to condemn the dishonest behavior of one of their citizens and to offer apologies. Instead the American news media set up a clamor about a violation of human rights in the Soviet Union and even accused this country of flouting the Helsinki accords. But probably nothing better could have been expected when there is no censure of the big corporations that have made a practice of bribing political leaders in Washington, Tokyo, Rome, and London. From time to time if public indignation reaches white heat, the authorities act against one or two leading politicians but since nothing is done to eradicate corruption new embezzlers rise to take the place of the old ones. This has been happening for many years in American politics. The inability of American leaders to keep promises given in election campaigns to end the wholesale corruption in government has a bearing on international politics too. Otherwise I wouldn't take it upon myself to speak on the subject.

The whole trouble is that with all the corruption at home some American politicians still find it possible to preach to other nations and interfere in their internal affairs.

NY TIMES CITED ON 'RADICAL REVISION' OF NUCLEAR STRATEGY

LD022131Y Moscow TASS in English 1950 ONY 2 Nov 78 LD

["Dangerous Designs"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, December 2, TASS--According to New York TIMES, which refers to officials in the Defense Department and the National Security Council, the U.S. Government is taking steps for a radical revision of the U.S. nuclear strategy. Broadly discussed at present is the possibility of conducting the so-called "limited nuclear war". The newspaper writes that this concept envisages the possibility of delivering local nuclear strikes. Within the framework of this new policy a strong emphasis is made on improving the American civil defense, creating new types of missiles and a radical reorganization of the control and communications system. A place of prominence in the revision of the nuclear strategy belongs, in the words of the newspaper, to the U.S. President's national security adviser, Z. Brzezinski and Defence Secretary M. Brown.

Despite the fact, the New York TIMES writes, that the White House has not yet taken a final decision, the Pentagon interpreted the discussion of this question as a signal to action and has already taken some practical steps which are thought here to be directly connected with the changes in the nuclear strategy. Chief of these steps is considered to be the development of bigger and more accurate missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads such as MX and Trident-2. For 1979, many millions of dollars appropriated for their development. Local analysts draw attention to the serious danger of the concept of a "limited nuclear war" which may happen to be detonator for a world nuclear catastrophe.

WALLPOSTER ATTACKS COMMUNIST PARTY VICE-CHAIRMAN

LE012048Y Moscow World Service in English 1900 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The wallposter campaign continues in China and here's a report from our Singapore correspondent:

Local news analysts believe that the wave of Chinese (attack in) wallposters is, to a certain degree, controlled from above. The most common subject of these posters continues to be personal criticism of a number of leaders associated with the so-called gang of four. The sharpest criticism is still used against the vice chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, Wang Tung-hsing. The main fire is evidently being opened on him. For instance, one of the posters demands that Wang Tung-sing 'be thrown out of the Politburo as the person mainly responsible for the events of April, 1976 and also as the close friend of (Kang Chen) and (Ming Chao). Criticism is also levelled at Politburo members Wu Te, Hs Chih-fu, Chen Hsi-lien and [name indistinct]. In fact, posters say a place in jail has already been prepared for Wu Te.

A number of posters brought to Peking from the provinces make the following appeals: Let's Fight Decisively Against all Usurpers and Dictators! Long Live Democracy and Human Rights! Down With Modern Idols and Gods! Down With Imperialist Power! Other posters ask: Where Is China Heading? or declare: We Need a Real Marxist-Leninist Leadership! However, the number of these posters is rather small and they are removed immediately.

Some posters deal with foreign policy. One poster said: Has Japanese and American imperialism ceased to exist or is China becoming an imperialist nation? The nature and content of various posters reveal the sharp struggle going on within the Peking party leadership which, local observers feel, indicates the growing role of Teng Hsiao-ping and the declining influence of the head of the Communist Party, Hsiao Hsiao-feng. Hsiao is also [words indistinct] quoting events of April, 1976 in Peking's Tiananmen Square.

Foreign journalists are also saying that the posters mainly reflect the opinion of Teng Hsiao-ping's supporters. In Peking, this opinion has not been officially refuted but local observers feel that certain issues raised in the wallposters go beyond the organized framework of the campaign.

PMC CRITICIZED FOR SUPPORTING NAGA, NISO TRIBES IN INDIA

OW011329Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1030 GMT 30 Nov 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary: "Peking Leaders Undermine China's International Prestige"]

[Excerpts] The Indian people's great national liberation movement forced the British colonialists out of India, but when the colonialists departed they left behind chronic political problems. The Kashmir issue is one of them. It still greatly complicates Indo-Pakistani relations. A similar situation exists on India's northeastern border with Burma. This mountainous border region is inhabited by Naga and Miso tribesmen.

Most of the residents of Nagaland and Mizoram clearly oppose splittism and rebellion and want their areas to be developed peacefully as a part of India. However, since the Chinese leaders began to move closer U.S. imperialism, the U.S. Government has urged the rulers in Chungking to support the Naga and Miso rebels. Peking's leaders have established a special camp in Yunnan Province to train Naga and Miso rebels.

These rebels have been sent from Yunnan to India via Burma, but the Waga and Mizo people do not support such sabotage activities. It is noteworthy that 1,700 of the 2,000 Chinese-trained Waga and Mizo rebels have surrendered to the Indian Government with weapons, ammunition, documents and propaganda materials. Some have joined India's border guard and are now searching for saboteurs who have entered India from China.

The Chinese authorities have positively supported the activities of the Waga and Mizo splittists and rebels. The Chinese authorities have been strongly condemned not only by Indian public opinion but also by tens of millions of people in other Asian countries.

Asian papers have commented on this matter. These comments justly point out that what China supports is not national liberation movements but, instead, colonialist imperialist running dogs. This policy of following imperialism will embroil China in the adventurous activities of imperialist intelligence. It is natural that this act by the Peking leaders greatly should damage China's international prestige.

The Indian people do not believe the Chinese leaders' remarks about normalizing the relationship between India and China. During his recent trip to Southeast Asian countries, Teng Hsiao-ping stated that Peking's leaders would continue to support the antigovernment forces inside Malaysia and Thailand. From this statement the Indian people understand that the Chinese authorities will continue to send saboteurs to India to obstruct the peaceful development of Nagaland and Mizoram. Decades of history eloquently prove that any hostile external interference in the internal affairs of an independent and freedom-loving country will surely meet with failure. In fact, the Chinese authorities' adventures in Nagaland and Mizoram have already met failure. China's subversive activities against India are threatening the real national interests of China and the Chinese people even though the Chinese people, like people in other countries, hope to live in friendship with their neighbors.

BULGARIA, GDR SUPPORT WARSAW PACT DECLARATION

15011818Y Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Sofia, December 1, TASS--The Politbureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party CC, the Council of State and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria fully approved the activities of the Bulgarian delegation at the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states in Moscow and voiced complete agreement with the conference's documents and decisions.

The policy of the PNB, of all the countries of the socialist community, says a communique on the session of the BCP Politbureau, the PNB Council of State and Council of Ministers, is in its social essence aimed at achieving peace and nothing but peace. This was confirmed once again at the Moscow conference. The Bulgarian Communist Party and the People's Republic of Bulgaria deem it to be their internationalist duty to struggle resolutely against the Chinese leadership's course towards firing up a new war, against its hegemonistic goals and actions, against its attempts to obstruct, in alliance with all the reactionary and aggressive forces, the process of international detente and normalisation of interstate relations, to upset the status quo in the world or in its individual areas.

They pledged solidarity with the Vietnamese people.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the great Soviet land and the Soviet people, the General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev personally--that most outstanding politician of our time, ardent champion of peace and human progress, plays and will go on playing a decisive role in strengthening and deepening the fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation of the countries of the socialist community, in the success of their struggle for lasting peace and social progress in the world.

Berlin, December 1, TASS--The Politbureau of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany CC and the GDR Council of Ministers fully endorse the results of the conference held by the Political Consultative Committee and its Declaration, says a statement by the Politbureau of the SUFG CC and the GDR Council of Ministers. The Moscow conference, the document notes, drew the attention of the peoples and states to the intensification of imperialism's attacks against detente. Clear confirmation of this are the decisions of the NATO Council's Washington session, directed at firing up the arms race. This course is supported by reactionary forces of every shade. A particularly negative role is being played by the hegemonistic policy of the present Peking leaders which is hostile to peace.

The Political consultative committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states, the statement points out, backed the Soviet Union's constructive proposals aimed at ending the arms race, at disarmament.

The Moscow conference and its results provide fresh proof of the peace-loving and profoundly humane policy of the socialist states united in the Warsaw Treaty organisation. They demonstrate their will to keep deepening the concerted interaction of the fraternal socialist countries in the struggle for peace and social progress. The SUFG and the GDR pledge solidarity with the Vietnamese people.

The Politbureau of the SUFG CC and the GDR Council of Ministers are grateful to the CPSU, the Soviet Union and Leonid Brezhnev for their constant unselfish efforts towards the all-round consolidation of the socialist community and securing world peace.

CZECH PAPER SUPPORTS WARSAW PACT MEETING

LD011404Y Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

["Community of Class Interests"--TASS headline]

[Text] Prague, December 1. TASS--The Moscow conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states is rightfully described by world public as an event of paramount significance in the struggle for peace and security of peoples, says the leading article "Community of Class Interests" in the newspaper RUBE PRAVO, the publication of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia CC.

The main force in the struggle for peace and security, the newspaper points out, is the socialist community. Its influence on international developments is the more vigorous, the more cohesion and coordination of the stands is shown by the countries associated in it in the examination of the present and long-term trends of the international situation, the stronger this unity is manifest in their practical activity.

At the present stage, RUBE PRAVO goes on to write, when the struggle of peoples for peace and security has complicated, when imperialist reaction and Maoists have stepped up their attacks at detente, when the Maoist-imperialist block creates a threat of drawing the whole world into a new dangerous stage of the arms race, the necessity of joint and coordinated actions by the brother countries has become doubly necessary. The Czechoslovak communists, the entire people of our country are well aware of it.

Suffice it to look at a number of recent years to see of what vital significance are common, coordinated actions by the fraternal socialist countries in the international arena, the article says.

Without a jointly outlined and implemented foreign policy of the countries of the socialist community, it would be impossible to hold the conference on European security and cooperation, to achieve international legal recognition of the GDR by the capitalist states, to normalize relations between the socialist countries and the FRG, to achieve in the talks with West Germany the recognition of invalidity of the Munich agreement. Without joint actions it would be impossible to hold with such success important international forums like, for example, the special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly.

It is precisely why, the RUBE PRAVO stresses, the unity of the socialist countries, their joint coordinated foreign policy activity is an eyesore to all the open and hidden enemies of international detente from the reactionary circles of the West to the Maoists. Their insidious slanderous attacks against the unity of the socialist countries are often camouflaged by phrases and "political concepts" built on nationalism, from the positions of a distorted idea of "national interests" counterposed to the common interests of the entire socialist community. These concepts are designed to conceal the fundamental and indisputable truth: The interests of each socialist country can harmoniously and successfully develop only in accordance with the interests of the socialist community as a whole.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY SESSION MARKS ALBANIAN LIBERATION DAY

LD011431Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Nov 78 p 5 LD

[Text] TASS--A session of the Board of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society to mark the 34th anniversary of Albania's liberation from fascist occupation took place in Moscow's Friendship House on 29 November.

COMMENTARY ON USSR-FRG ECONOMIC COOPERATION

LD041021Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Nov 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Candidate of Economic Sciences Yu. Krasnov article: "Business Ties Are Developing"]

[Text] With every year the USSR's economic relations with the FRG are becoming an increasingly important constituent part of our country's international economic ties. The level of these ties and their condition and dynamics affect the situation in Europe and throughout the world. Cooperation between the countries, based on the 12 August 1970 Moscow treaty, always receives new impetus from top-level meetings.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's May visit to the FRG was of particular significance for the further development of mutually advantageous trade and various forms of industrial and technical cooperation.

The latest Soviet-West German summit meeting took place at a time when forces pining for the "cold war" and seeking to launch at least a "cool" war have become more active in the capitalist world. In the FRG too, attacks from certain circles on "Eastern trade" and new forms of economic cooperation have been stepped up. Business ties between the partners needed new impetus and clear prospects.

Life has insistently demanded that new guidelines for cooperation be mapped out for the years ahead right up to the 21st century on the basis of an increasingly deep division of labor between the USSR and the FRG and improving business partnership between the two countries. As indicated by the results of the meeting on the Rhine, the joint declaration and the agreement on developing and enhancing long-term cooperation between the USSR and the FRG in the sphere of the economy and industry have been fulfilled.

Painstaking day-to-day work by the partners to implement the agreements reached has begun. The myths that trade between the USSR and the FRG has reached its ceiling have finally been exploded. The increased portfolio of orders provides a good basis for a significant expansion of trade in the coming years. There is no doubt of the realistic nature of the task set by the partners during the latest summit meeting--to double trade in 1976-1980 in comparison with the preceding 5 years.

For this purpose it is necessary to insure a total annual trade at the level of \$3 billion in 1978-1980. The results for the first half of 1978 indicate that this total will be significantly exceeded in the current year.

There is a tremendous reserve for further increasing trade exchange in the increasingly deep division of labor between the partners. A government statement by Federal Chancellor H. Schmidt at a plenary session of the FRG Bundestag after the summit meeting justifiably noted that the USSR and FRG economies could supplement each other to a greater extent. Both countries are at a high level of development.

But the Soviet Union possesses energy and raw material resources which the FRG lacks. At the same time the FRG could offer the USSR particularly efficient technology in many spheres. Favorable prospects for cooperation arise from this. Export specializations by West German industry in the production of complex technical articles could insure a further growth in FRG exports to the USSR, mainly in machinery and equipment. At present Soviet foreign trade organizations purchase one-fourth of all equipment supplied by Western countries and FRG firms.

The USSR has occupied a prominent place in FRO exports of individual goods. According to FRO statistics for 1977 the USSR's proportion of the total FRO exports of large diameter pipes was 52 percent, that of machine tools for forge and press equipment--20 percent, and that of machinery for casting under pressure--7 percent.

Various consumer goods are being purchased from the FRO. Soviet orders in connection with low market conditions in the FRO will continue to be significant in filling its production capacities and insuring employment of the population.

It is no accident that U.S. President Carter's demand that the FRO Government support American discriminatory measures in the sphere of exporting equipment to the USSR met with support only among Strauss and his comrades-in-arms. Business circles and the progressive public gave the American President a fitting reply. The newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE justifiably noted "In the modern industrial society, the economic boycott has one decisive short-coming: It primarily affects the initiators of the boycott themselves, by no means guaranteeing success on the other side of the border."

Great work is being carried out in improving the structure of Soviet exports to the FRO by Soviet foreign trade organizations and industrial ministries. It must be confessed that the structure of Soviet exports to the FRO does not yet reflect the level of industrial, scientific and technical development achieved by the USSR nor its potential for participating in the international division of labor with countries with different social systems. The proportion of finished goods in Soviet exports to the FRO must be considerably increased in the next few years, as must the degree of processing of the raw materials and semifinished articles supplied. Only in this way will it be possible to achieve the optimum situation in the division of labor between the partners.

The Soviet Union's successful implementation of the Ninth 5-Year Plan targets makes it possible for Soviet foreign trade organizations to supply more and more new articles to the FRO: dry cargo ships, cold rolling mills and hydrofoils. The list of Soviet exports includes metal cutting tools, electrotechnical equipment, hoisting and transport installations, gas welding apparatus, printing equipment, bearings and medical equipment.

The rapid growth rate of Soviet deliveries to the FRO and the expansion of the range of export goods are connected to a significant extent with great work being carried out in the Soviet Union to improve the quality of export products. According to a poll carried out by the Hamburg World Economic Archives, a whole series of Soviet goods have already recommended themselves in the best possible way.

The new stage in the development of Soviet-West German cooperation is also connected with the fact that it is being carried out not only by developing trade, but also by means of introducing more progressive forms of cooperation in the sphere of industry, science and technology. The new long-term agreement signed during L.I. Brezhnev's visit gives the green light to this large-scale cooperation. Cooperation in machine building must be expanded, particularly in the transportation sphere, metallurgy, chemicals, electrical equipment and electronics, as well as in the consumer goods industry. Cooperation is being established in the sphere of technology, management organization and the rationalization of enterprises. The exchange of licences and patents is expanding.

The erection of the Oskol electrometallurgical combine is taking place with the participation of several large West German firms. A complex for the production of chemical fibers is being erected in Nogilev with the assistance of FRO chemical machine building firms. The construction of a major gear box shop is being completed in Naberezhnyye Chelny. Finally, in Moscow West German specialists are taking part in the erection of the new Shermetyevo airport.

While speaking of prospects for large-scale cooperation in the industrial sphere, let us again stress the importance of such forms as barter deals--deals according to which industrial projects are erected in the USSR with the participation of West German firms, and loans for equipment supplied are repaid by means of supplying from the USSR finished products produced with that equipment. About 13 percent of all supplies of goods in both directions is already carried out in accordance with such agreements.

It is not only a question of mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the FRG. With its expansion, an increasing material basis is created for detente and peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems.

PREPARATIONS FOR SPANISH CONSTITUTION REFERENDUM NOTED

Electorate Increases; Voting Age Lowered

LD022333Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1415 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Madrid, 2 December--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Medvedenko reports:

The preparations for the nationwide referendum at which Spanish citizens will express a final decision on the country's first constitution for the last 40-odd years are nearing completion. According to EFE, 24,11,816 people will be able to take part in the referendum, to be held on 6 December. The electorate has increased by almost 1.5 million because, for the first time ever in Spain, the voting age is 18.

All the main parties represented in parliament, including the ruling Democratic Center Union, the Communist Party and the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, are waging an active campaign in support of the constitution. In their public statements the leaders of these parties are emphasizing the democratic nature of the new constitution.

Its main impact is that it puts an end to the Francoist past and repeals the state of emergency acts, which the old regime had foisted on the country. The constitution enshrines the positive changes that have taken place in Spain in recent years and outlines the main directions of political, economic and social life.

The formulation of the new constitution is primarily the result of a stoic struggle by the Spanish people and all Spain's democratic forces for the restoration of democratic freedoms and the intensifying of the process of social and political transformations. The resolution of the latest plenum of the Spanish Communist Party Central Committee did not emphasize in vain that the basic law is an important factor for the strengthening of the democratic process taking place in the country.

Ultrarightists Threaten Disruption

LD031436Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Madrid, December 3, TASS--Political parties and trade union associations of Spain, including the Communist Party and the Spanish Socialist Labour Party, the General Union of Workers, and the workers commissions issued a joint statement in which they resolutely condemned the criminal activities of ultra-rightist movements.

The statement stresses that the *Fuerza Nueva*, the *Guerrilleros Del Cristo Rey*, and other reactionary organisations are trying to bring about an atmosphere of tension in the country on the eve of a referendum on the question of adoption of the constitution.

Lately pro-fascist organisations considerably boosted their subversive activity. It is spear-headed against progressive organisations, in the first place.

Yesterday, for example, fascist thugs attacked in Valencia a group of working people who were pasting up posters calling to vote for the Democratic constitution. Reaction organised attacks on the buildings of the Spanish Socialist Labour Party, and the Workers Commission and the General Union of Workers, situated in various parts of the city, and staged several arson.

The democratic parties and trade unions demanded that the government apply most stringent measures, provided by legislation, with regard to right-wing extremists.

SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER AGUIRRE TO VISIT USSR IN JANUARY

LS012142Y Moscow TASS in English 2132 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 2, TASS--Spain's Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre will make an official visit to the Soviet Union in the second half of January. He was invited by the Soviet Government.

CORRECTIONS TO ITEM ON SPANISH TRADE MINISTER'S INTERVIEW

The following corrections are to the item entitled "Spanish Trade Minister Discusses Trade Fair in Moscow," published in the 1 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page E 2:

Page E 2, sourceline should read...LS010012Y [Editorial Report LD] Moscow in Spanish to Spain at 2200 GMT on 29 November carries an interview with Spanish Commerce and Tourism Minister Juan Garcia granted to a Moscow Radio correspondent "at the end of his stay in Moscow."

In reply to a question, Garcia Dies says that he had held a meeting with the Soviet foreign trade minister and had thanked him for helping to organize the Spanish industrial fair in Moscow. After noting that the present state of bilateral trade exchanges was reviewed, Garcia Dies says: "I think that...reformatting and rewording first paragraph of E 2, picking up with first paragraph of page E 3.

Page E 3, first paragraph, line nine should read...the Soviet Union." He adds that he transmitted a...supplying words.

Same page, paragraph two, line one should read...In reply to a question about bilateral economic relations, Garcia Dies says: "Since the trade...rewording.

Same paragraph, line nine should read...both our countries." He added that...supplying dropped quote mark.

IRANIAN DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE; GENERAL STRIKE CALLED FOR

ID011620Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 0930 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New antigovernment demonstrations were staged yesterday in Mashhad in protest against restrictions imposed by officials. Armed troops used tear gas and opened fire to disperse the demonstrators.

In Tehran, the situation remains tense. At the Tehran refinery, where workers have gone on strike, armed troops took up positions yesterday. Large army units have also surrounded the National Iranian Radio and Television Organization.

Army Deployed to Oil Refineries

ID011630Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The Iranian authorities today hastily deployed the armed forces to the country's oil refineries. Troops should make up for the manpower shortage as a result of the strike by oil workers. The oil workers are demanding an increase in wages and the release of their comrades who have been arrested for having taken part in antigovernment demonstrations.

Reports from Tehran indicate that employees of Iran Air have once again resorted to strike action and called for the release of political prisoners and the dissolution of the political police--SAVAK--which has been active in suppressing the opposition forces.

Khomeyni Calls for General Strike

LD020022Y Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] Big anti-government demonstrations were reported to have taken in Tehran and other cities in Iran. In some cases, the police used tear gas and firearms against the demonstrators.

An influential leader of the opposition, Khomeyni, who is now in Paris, has called to begin a general strike on Saturday. The appeal to the workers and employees of the oil industry says that the authorities spend profits from oil to buy weapons abroad with which civilians are then killed in Iran.

And, as has already been reported, the special envoy of the American President, Senator Robert Byrd, who visited Iran at the end of November, handed over to the shah a personal message from President Carter. It reaffirms the full support of the United States of the existing regime.

In his statement for the press, Senator Byrd tried to make out that the alleged Soviet danger is a potential threat to Iran. Such statements can be viewed only as part of the anti-Soviet campaign which American propaganda has started in connection with the events in Iran. It is this propaganda which supplies so-called reliable information about Soviet troops stationed on the border with Iran, about the violation by Soviet planes of Iran's air space, and about Soviet weapons being sent to the opposition in Iran. There is nothing new in the method. It is aimed at covering up the real interference of Americans in Iran.

More military and other American advisers continue to arrive in Iran. Reports are appearing in the American press about direct attempts of the United States to interfere in the internal political developments in Iran.

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR says that the shah told privately several United States representatives who visited Iran that he received information that Americans connected with oil companies were involved in inciting action.

2 Dec TASS Report

LDQ21430Y Moscow TASS in English 1347 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

["Iran: New Sharpening of The Situation"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, December 2, TASS--According to news agency reports, last night, during the curfew, mass anti-government demonstrations began in many districts of Tehran. Dispersing the demonstrations, the troops and the police had, first, used tear gas and then opened fire on the unarmed demonstrators. Intensive machine and submachine-gun fire was heard for over three hours late into the night. All this time heavy tanks and armoured vehicles rumbled across the streets and soldiers prohibited the people even to look out of the windows.

A UPI correspondent describes yesterday's clashes in Tehran as 'the most bloody' during this year, i.e. from the beginning of the broad popular upheavals in Iran. In the course of this year, according to official data, over a thousand people perished in the clashes between the security forces and the anti-government demonstrations participants. Opposition representatives claim, however, that the official data are conservative and that the number of those killed is actually several times greater.

Tehran Radio reported that the previous night seven people were killed and 14 wounded in the streets of Tehran. Nevertheless, a REUTERS correspondent, citing evidence of eye-witnesses, reports that yesterday, as a result of massive shooting, over a thousand people perished in the Iranian capital.

From early morning today in the area of the Tehran market, massive demonstrations resumed where participants chanted antigovernment slogans. And as was the case yesterday fire was opened again on the demonstrators.

Reports on popular upheavals and clashes also proceed from Rafahan, Bushir, (Zanjan) and other cities.

Paris, December 2, TASS--Today's LE FIGARO writes that so far the Iranian authorities have found no political solution to the crisis which has swept the country. Stating that the coming days may prove to be a most critical test for Iran's current regime, the newspaper thinks that the furious clashes between the Iranian Army and opposition representatives will continue.

Washington, December 2, TASS--The Washington POST reports of a briefing conducted in the Pentagon by a high-ranking official of the United States Defense Department.

Referring to the situation in Iran, this U.S. spokesman said that the establishment in that country of a regime not friendly to the West will have very serious military implications. The Washington POST points out that this high-ranking Pentagon official refused to discuss U.S. emergency plans with regard to an intervention in Iran.

A U.S. television channel broadcast an interview with a prominent Iranian religious leader Khomeini living at present in France as an emigre. He sharply criticized the United States support for the Iranian regime, accusing the United States of plundering the natural resources which belong to the Iranian people. Khomeini said that the close cooperation between Tehran and Washington in the military area is only doing harm to the Iranian people.

A commission of Iran's Ministry of Justice has found that during the last several weeks 180 high-ranking Iranian politicians and military had made money transfers to foreign banks of about 1,000 million dollars. These include the present and former ministers, directors of state companies, industrialists, generals and members of Parliament.

3 Dec TASS Report

LD031757 Moscow TASS in English 1717 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, December 3. TASS--Mass manifestations resumed early this morning in the Iranian capital. Their participants chanted antigovernment slogans. New clashes took place between the demonstrators and troops blocking the central streets of the city. The soldiers repeatedly resorted to tear gas against the "law breakers" and also used fire arms. There are killed and wounded.

By midday the authorities managed to clear the streets from demonstrators. A tense quiet settled on the city. Armoured troops carriers and trucks with soldiers in full combat readiness are placed in many squares and at crossing. Banks, offices, many enterprises and shops are closed in the capital and other cities at the call of the opposition to hold a general strike throughout the country. In view of the steep sharpening of the situation, the authorities closed the schools.

Yesterday evening, at the onset of the curfew, mass unrest in Tehran spread to the Jaleh quarter and the area of the bazaar. The authorities brutally suppressed these actions. Submachine-gun and machine-gun rounds, the clang of tracks of tanks and troops carriers, police car and ambulance sirens could be heard for three hours in the centre of the capital. The clashes resulted in the arrest of many demonstrators and casualties (both killed and wounded).

Reports reaching here say mass popular unrest took place last night in a number of other cities--Tehran, Hamadan, Yazd, Shiraz, Isfahan, Kermanshah and Meshed. The number of casualties is unknown.

In Tehran a group of deputies made a request in the Majlis (lower chamber of parliament) regarding legality of the measures taken by the military government of General Ashari in the prevailing situation, and questioned the advisability of his publicising lists of casualties. The government will be forced to resign in case the Majlis decides his actions are illegal.

Western Journalists Attacked

LD032230 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] There was an incident, in Tehran today involving three journalists--two correspondents of NEWSWEEK magazine and an Englishman from THE DAILY TELEGRAPH--in the lobby of the Intercontinental Hotel, where they are staying. They were attacked by agents of the SAVAK secret police, who tied their hands and sent them to a police station, where they were brutally beaten up.

A strange story, but the reaction of the American and British embassies in Tehran probably draws no less attention than the acts of the Iranian torturers. Their representatives made it clear that they did not intend to take any action against the authorities. And how could the U.S. Embassy complain about SAVAK if the entire world knows that this secret organization was not only modeled along the same lines as the CIA but also operates on instructions from Langley? It would not be out of place to recall that for 350,000 Iranian armymen there are 30,000 U.S. advisers.

PEACE AND PROGRESS REPORTS ISRAELI DELEGATION'S VISIT

TAS21326Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 1 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Between 21 November and 30 November a group of Israeli public figures, representatives of various circles of the peace-loving people in Israel, visited our country. The group was invited by the Soviet Peace Council. Its members were Deputy Secretary General of the Israeli Communist Party member of the Knesset [MK] Tawfiq Tabi; Alignment MK and Labor Party member Yosi Sarid and his wife Dorit Sarid; MAPDAM MK Avraham Melamed; Alignment MK and MAPAM executive member Naftali Feder, member of the Israeli Communist Party Politburo 'Dazi Burstein and Shelli lawyer Amnon Zikhroni.

The visitors from Israel visited Moscow, Leningrad and Minsk and held several meetings with representatives of the Soviet public. In the talks that took place with the Soviet Peace Committee they discussed the issues of the peace settlement in the Middle East.

At a press conference held at the end of the visit, the following statement by the members of the group, among others, was made: We thank (from the bottom of our hearts) the Soviet Peace Council for the warm invitation that enabled us to visit the Soviet Union. These were days of [words indistinct] full of impressions and experiences we are taking back with us to Israel. Every where we went and at every meeting we held we could clearly see the friendly hospitality and good will that accompanied us. [words indistinct] From the remarks of those with whom we met we could feel the sincere desire for the establishment of peace in the world. We, public Israeli figures with varying political views, the statements said, conducted comprehensive talks in a frank and friendly spirit on the problems of peace in the Middle East and on Israeli-Soviet relations. These talks showed agreement as well as differences on these issues. [words indistinct] We gained the impression that the participants in the talks sincerely desired to make an effort to strengthen and broaden those things held in common. We believe that the visit and the talks that were held were encouraging and useful, the statement says. [words indistinct] Our visit to the Soviet Union brought about a greater understanding between the Israeli public and the Soviet public with respect to peace in our region and throughout the world. We hope, the statement continues, that our visit will strengthen the efforts to improve and normalize relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. We believe that on the basis of honoring the legitimate rights and the security of all countries and peoples in our area, including the Arab Palestinian people, it will be possible to march together toward the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area. This process requires the involvement of the Soviet Union in the efforts to establish peace. We hope that our visit to the Soviet Union will contribute toward advancing the peace-making process, the statement says.

Interview With Israel CP Official

LDO22042Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Unnamed Moscow Radio Correspondent's interview with Tawfiq Tabi, deputy secretary general of the Israeli Communist Party--recorded in Hebrew fading into Russian translation; date and place not given]

[Text] An all-embracing, just and stable peace between Israel and the Arab states is essential not only for the people of Israel and the Arab peoples, but also for the entire world.

Today, it has already become quite clear that such a peace cannot be attained by means of separate deals that ignore UN resolutions and a just solution of the Palestinian problem. Peace in the Near East can only be achieved after Israel gives up all the Arab territories it occupies and after the legitimate right of the people of Palestine to create their own state is satisfied.

The events of the recent past have also shown that the Geneva conference, whose cochairmen are the Soviet Union and the United States, is the most felicitous and suitable place to solve the Near East problem. Any attempts to ignore the Geneva conference and conclude a separate deal do not answer the interests of peace and security in our region.

I wish to stress that Israel's peace-loving forces put a high assessment on the Soviet Union's sincere efforts to establish a just peace in the Near East in the interests of the independence and sovereignty of all the states and peoples of this area, and in accordance with the decisions of the UN Security Council.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN TALKS

Apparent Deadlock in Talks

LD012056Y Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Here is a cable from our Cairo correspondent in connection with the current negotiations in Washington, where attempts are being made to break the deadlock at the Egyptian-Israeli talks:

Egyptian news analysts are not paying serious attention to reports on the differences between Egypt and Israel. They are supposedly watching progress at the separate talks in Washington. They don't doubt that a separate peace treaty will be signed in the near future. There will be a treaty despite the various (enigmatic) statements coming out daily from officials in Cairo and Tel Aviv.

The Egyptian journalists only disagree on exactly when the treaty will be signed. Some believe it will be in December and others think it will be in another 2 or 3 months. Most of them agree though that Cairo has gone too far into the quagmire of the American plan for changes in the Middle East based on the alliance between Washington, Tel Aviv and Cairo. Egypt, as is known, has refused the financial aid offered by the Arab nations that participated in the recent Baghdad summit conference. Egypt has publicly placed all its hopes on aid from the United States. It hopes to receive (grants) of \$15 billion over a 15-year period, according to the so-called Carter plan.

Then what's the reason for delaying a separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty under the sponsorship of the United States? News analysts believe this is an attempt to stop the wave of opposition to the agreement in Arab countries in hopes of splitting the anti-Camp David camps in these countries. Such hopes are specially pinned on the monarchies in the Persian Gulf that are closely connected with the United States. These countries can always be frightened by talk about an imaginary Soviet threat. But even in these countries and countries with conservative governments, public opinion is definitely against attempts to solve the Middle East problem Washington's way. Recently, the Kuwait newspaper AL-QANAS commented that Egypt has turned its back on the Arab world and (thus with) its policy changed the balance of forces in favor of Israel. Another Kuwait newspaper, the AL-WATAN, had an editorial appealing to the Arabs to be careful of Washington, which, it stressed, is trying to impose its will on the Arab world.

Egyptian 'Capitulation' Scored

LDO12118Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "A New Capitulatory Step by Official Cairo"]

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat on Wednesday received Senator Robert Byrd, the personal representative of the U.S. President. Afterwards, the senator said that As-Sadat had agreed to the American timetable to establish the so-called self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, something which has been rightly rejected by most Arabs. Palestinian and other Arab quarters regard this step by the Egyptian president as a new capitulation to Washington's line and Tel Aviv's expansionist ambitions toward the occupied territory of Palestine.

Egyptian official propaganda, trying to magnify the importance of As-Sadat's message to President Carter, alleges that it explains the need to link the Egyptian-Israeli treaty to the future of the West Bank and the Gaza. Cairo proposes that this question be resolved through letters to be exchanged between Egypt and Israel. It is the view of Western news agencies that the Israeli leadership appreciated this proposal. This is logical because it very much suits Tel Aviv since it does not affect its expansionist plans concerning the West Bank.

It is significant that Tel Aviv is now considering an extensive program to build scores of new Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Cairo's proposal to link the Egyptian-Israeli treaty with the fate of the West Bank and Gaza is very useful to the enemy for the simple reason that the letters would not be binding legally. Consequently, all the noise about the Egyptian attitude on this question is only meant to deceive Arab and world public opinion and camouflage the blatant capitulation of Cairo to the enemy and its U.S. protectors.

Here I would like to cite the well-informed Washington POST, which said a few days ago that Egypt would never attempt to place legal obstacles in the way of implementing the Egyptian-Israeli treaty because of what may take place on the West Bank. In other words, the Egyptian leadership has turned the long-occupied Palestinian territory into a means for attaining its own selfish, narrow objectives, which have nothing in common with national Arab interests or with the quest for an overall, just and lasting settlement in the Middle East.

Informed political observers now definitely believe that the Egyptian leadership will inevitably sign the separate treaty with Israel as soon as possible, perhaps within a few weeks. Cairo will sign the document, which was drafted in Washington and fully endorsed by Tel Aviv. A few days ago, writing about the U.S. draft treaty, the New York TIMES said that it dealt with the character of peace in words that used to appear as an unattainable dream to the majority of Israelis and their supporters in the United States. Perhaps these words best express Israel's obvious joy at the expected signing of the treaty with Egypt and the establishment of normal and varied international relations with it.

At the same time, the words of the New York TIMES stand as eloquent evidence of the degree of Cairo's capitulation and of its betrayal of the issue of insuring the national lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine and the liberation of Arab land occupied by Israel in 1967.

DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET-TURKISH TRADE RELATIONS VIEWED

LDO11752Y Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

["Development of Soviet-Turkish Relations"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 1, TASS--TASS commentator Aleksandr Koslov writes: The Soviet-Turkish negotiations conducted in Moscow have been successful. A long-term agreement on trade exchange between the USSR and Turkey in 1979-1981 was signed this Thursday.

This document, signed by Mikhail Kuzmin, deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR and Teyman Koprululer, trade minister of Turkey, marks a qualitatively new stage in the development of bilateral business relations. This is the first agreement on the history of both countries which places the Soviet-Turkish commercial relations on a long-term basis. The agreement was concluded for three years and replaces the previous practice of signing one-year trade protocols.

The document signed in Moscow provides for a 1-2.5 fold increase of trade exchange as compared with the current year. In accordance with it, the nomenclature of the goods that the two countries will deliver to each other will be expanded. The new agreement reflects the mutual interest of the Soviet and Turkish side in the expansion of all-round business relations, including trade. Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit recently noted in a talk with pressmen that progress was achieved during his official visit to the USSR this summer in the question of expanding the spheres of cooperation between Turkey and the USSR. Turkish business circles have more than once expressed their interest in the development of stable and long-term economic and commercial cooperation with the USSR, regarding this as one of the concrete opportunities for overcoming financial and economic difficulties. Such cooperation helps Turkey to solve such an acute problem as employment of the population, to meet the country's requirements in different industrial production, including complete plant for the enterprises going up in the country, and also the problem of marketing its traditional export goods.

GREEK OPPOSITION PARTY QUESTIONS U.S. BASES IN COUNTRY

LDO22224Y Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Summary] Members of Parliament from the Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) have asked the government to state the number, purpose and conditions of activity of U.S. bases in the country.

In a dispatch from Athens, our correspondent notes that the national defense minister said there are only four U.S. naval bases in Greece and these are under joint Greek-American command and meet the interests of Greek defense. "But this time representatives of the largest opposition party in parliament were not satisfied with the smooth official answer. They submitted a list of as many as 40 Pentagon military bases and installations that continue to operate on Greek soil. These include posts for electronic surveillance in (Rome), missile bases in central Macedonia, a base of United States B-2 spy planes, nine naval bases, military airfields and stockpiles of nuclear warheads. These military facilities, the PASOK members of Parliament pointed out, not only fail to meet the interests of the country's defense, but carry a threat to the national interests of Greece. The defense minister could not deny the facts they supplied and refused to say anything about the deployment of American nuclear weapons in Greece."

In coverage of the parliamentary debate the progressive press underlines that maintenance of foreign bases in Greece makes withdrawal from NATO meaningless.

MOSCOW CRITICIZES NATO ACTIVITIES IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

LEOJ0010Y Moscow IN Turkish to Turkey 1400 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Lidiya Suvetina commentary]

[Excerpts] Toward the end of every year, various NATO organizations engage in a number of (ostentatious) activities. To form a correct opinion on the nature of the NATO's activities, it is necessary to take a look at the bloc's activities on its southeastern wing. Soon after the reopening of U.S. bases in Turkey, the NATO leadership stepped up efforts to bring about the return of Greece to NATO's military framework. There are, as you know, a great many U.S. bases and other installations in Greece. Greek deputies have often demanded a statement on whether or not American nuclear weapons are retained on these bases. According to reports in a number of Greek papers, the answer is affirmative.

The Greek public decisively protests against the efforts by NATO warmongers to transform the country into an arena for NATO's war preparations. A number of deputies taking part in the Greek parliamentary debates on the activities of the U.S. bases have pointed out the danger to Greek national interests lurking in the NATO military bases. The danger is not for Greece alone. As everybody knows, the NATO bases in Greece and Turkey are aimed against the socialist countries. There is no doubt that if Greece returns to NATO's framework, it would lead to an intensification of (anti-Soviet) activities by this aggressive bloc on Greek territory; and this, in turn, would unfavorably influence the situation in the whole region. One cannot but point out the following as well, dear listeners. There has been, for a variety of reasons, a souring in Greek-Turkish relations recently. Yet, NATO leadership organs continue to increase tension in the region with the aim of imposing their military plan on the (words indistinct) peoples of Europe. Constant NATO interference in the affairs of Cyprus also influences the situation in the region, despite the well-known fact that Cyprus is not a member of NATO. Recently, America proposed a plan for settling the Cyprus problem to suit its own liking. The aim of the plan is to (finalize) the partitioned state of the island and thus to facilitate the transformation of Cyprus into a NATO area of operations.

It is no accident that a large number of Cypriot political figures have approached the U.S. plans with the suspicion and have warned the Cypriots against the possibility of falling into a NATO trap. The U.S. delegation at the North Atlantic Assembly meeting in (Brussels) has proposed a new draft resolution on Cyprus aimed at (completing) its interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus. The Turkish delegation lodged a protest against this draft resolution. The NATO leadership is engaged in a clamorous propaganda campaign about a so-called Soviet threat while it is engaged in militarist activities itself. Southeastern Europe is no exception to this. The truth is, however, that friendly relations between socialist countries and Greece and Turkey are developing in this region as elsewhere--as are relations based on mutual interest. Recently, a meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact was held in Moscow. The declaration passed at this meeting advanced a number of propositions for further improving the international situation, including the situation in southeastern Europe. What is required to achieve new progress (at the present juncture) and to lead the peoples to true security requires not increased NATO militarist activities planned at NATO meetings that threatened world peace but the proposals mentioned in the declaration referred to.

NAMIBIA 'ELECTIONS' TO BE HELD 4 DECEMBER

SWAPO Leaders Arrested

LD032223Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] London--Five leaders of the South-West Africa Peoples' Organization (SWAPO)--the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people--were arrested today and thrown into prison by the South African police. According to HEUTER, among them are D. Tjongarero, SWAPO's national chairman and official spokesman in Namibia; M. Tihabanello, secretary for information and publications; and other SWAPO Executive Committee members. All of them have been indicted on the standard charge of "violating the antiterrorist law."

The arrests were made on the eve of a mass meeting planned by SWAPO in connection with the "general elections" which the South African occupation authorities plan to hold on 4 December. The majority of Namibia's African population is boycotting the racists' venture. Its aim is to establish a puppet "government" in the country and to prevent Namibia from becoming genuinely free and independent. Yesterday, police and army units dispersed a protest demonstration in the territory's administrative center of Windhoek. About 500 demonstrators were arrested.

The South African Army, numbering more than 50,000 men, is stationed presently in Namibia to insure that the "election" farce is successful. The occupationists are trying to force Africans to take part in the voting through intimidation and repression.

The UN Security Council has stated that the results of such "elections" will be invalid and that if they are held, sanctions against South Africa will be enforced without delay.

However, South African Prime Minister Botha, following his return from Washington where he had talks with the U.S. President and secretary of state, announced that "no serious differences exist" between Britain, the United States and South Africa concerning long-term aims in Namibia and that there are "only slight differences concerning the methods of achieving them."

Nujoma Interview

LD032524Y Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The South African racists and their Western patrons do everything to keep Namibia under their political and economic control. The Pretoria regime plans to hold elections in Namibia on the fourth of this month. The racists have ordered their 50,000-strong occupation army to supervise the elections to prevent Namibia's progressive forces, represented by SWAPO, from coming to power.

SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has granted an interview to our correspondent in Luanda. He had this to say on his organization's stand with regard to the maneuvers of the South African racists:

[Nujoma--recorded] As far as SWAPO and the people of Namibia are concerned, the projected so-called election by the fascist and racist Pretoria regime in Namibia is illegal. It will be fought from mountain to mountain, from valley to valley, from desert to desert, from every district, region of our country by the Namibian people. It is a plot by the imperialists and their allies in South Africa with a view to impose a neo-colonial solution in Namibia. The Pretoria racist regime is afraid that SWAPO certainly will win if there is democratic, fair and free election taking place in Namibia.

The Pretoria racist regime has one thing in mind and that is to impose a neocolonial solution in Namibia, and it is (South Africa's) regime with the Turnhalle puppets who will [words indistinct] at the instigation of the Pretoria racist regime to (repress with the) Pretoria fascist regime, to maintain its (repressive) armed forces in Namibia.

(It's obvious) what is going to happen on 4 December during [words indistinct]. South African troops and police will literally at the gunpoint go around the villages, force the people to vote for the (so-called) puppets of Turnhalle. This is what [words indistinct] is going to happen. (Well, anyway our information) is that the white employers are forcing the African employees to vote for the puppets of Turnhalle who are in the favor of the South African (fascist) regime.

There's not going to be an election in Namibia. SWAPO and the people of Namibia have rejected it, rejected the South African plot and [words indistinct] so-called election and they will continue to reject it through the intensification of both military and political actions.

SWAPO Condemnation

LD041052Y Moscow TASS in English 0948 GMT 4 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, December 4, TASS--The South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) condemned resolutely wholesale terror and reprisals. In such atmosphere the South African occupation authorities in Namibia stage today the farce of "general elections". A SWAPO statement published here says that on the eve of the elections the racists arrested more than one hundred SWAPO members, including many of its leaders, and 80 leaders of patriotic youth. The population is compelled at gun point to go and register at election stations.

SWAPO has reliable information that the South African regime has already compiled a draft letter for Namibian puppet leaders being "elected" today. In that letter they will ask the South African Government to give them military aid in their struggle against the patriots.

WEST 'WILL DO EVERYTHING IT CAN' TO PRESERVE SOUTH AFRICA

LD012044Y Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, December 1, TASS--The foreign minister of the racist Republic of South Africa, Botha, who arrived in the United States, officially for a meeting with U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, paid a visit also to Washington where he is given VIP treatment. Following talks with the secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, he was received by President James Carter. White House and State Department officials declined to divulge the content of the negotiations, just stating that they were concerned with the "situation in Namibia".

In the view of informed commentators the main purpose of Botha's arrival in Washington was to get American assurances of further support for the South African racists' policy aimed at perpetuating RZA domination in Namibia. As is known, the Pretoria regime, which is illegally occupying Namibian territory, is preparing to stage there on December 4th a farce with "general elections". The aim of the racists is to set up a puppet government in Namibia while preserving in fact the racist-colonial order, and ensuring conditions for carrying on the predatory exploitation of the natural and manpower resources. While paying only lip service to Namibia's self-determination, the United States actually has identified with the apartheid regime, giving it broad economic support and also carries out military deliveries along secret channels.

It is noteworthy that Botha's visit and talks in Washington are taking place at a time when the racists have steeply intensified military preparations in Namibia. Units and formations of the South African Army are being concentrated on the border with the People's Republic of Angola. One can hardly regard it accidental that two American generals are also travelling in South Africa--the executive director of the U.S. Reserve Officers' Association, M. Roberts and member of the association's leadership, R. Cooper. At the invitation of a government organization of the RSA racist regime, responsible for raising the regime's "prestige", they visited the RSA, Namibia and Rhodesia to hold secret negotiations with military and political leaders of the Pretoria and Salisbury regimes and visited military projects in Namibia and Rhodesia.

In their statements they assured the racists that the West will do everything it can and spare no assets for the preservation of the present regimes in the RSA and Rhodesia.

ETHIOPIAN ARMY TAKES KEREN FROM ERITREAN 'SEPARATISTS'

LD011537Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Nov 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Korovikov dispatch: "Successful Operations"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 29 November--The local press and radio are commenting extensively on recent reports from the National Revolutionary Operational Command on the Second Army's major successes in the struggle against separatist detachments in the country's northern province--Eritrea. The highway linking the seaport of Massawa with Asmara, the provincial capital, was completely cleared of splittist units on 22 November. After stubborn fighting on 27 November, Ethiopian Army units seized the city of Keren--the last significant population center still held by the separatists. The National Revolutionary Operational Command's statement and newspaper commentaries emphasize that the liberation of Keren is one more important victory over the conspiracies against revolutionary Ethiopia.

Over the years that the separatists have been operating in Eritrea the economy of this most developed part of the country has suffered badly--dozens of factories and plants have been put out of commission, bridges and power transmission lines have been blown up, and many plantations have been neglected. The time for reconstruction is now coming.

REPORTS ON UGANDA-TANZANIA FIGHTING 'CONTRADICTORY'

LD021409Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Lukyanov]

[Text] Contradictory reports about the continuing military actions between Tanzania and Uganda are coming from the capitals of these countries, Dar es Salaam and Kampala. Tanzania's DAILY NEWS writes that Ugandan units are still occupying a number of Tanzanian border regions, while other reports say that Tanzanian troops have entered Ugandan territory. A number of foreign news agencies report heavy exchanges of artillery fire between the hostile sides. The conflict between the two independent African states is causing anxiety among the progressive African and world public, for it only benefits those imperialist and neocolonialist forces that are trying to conduct a policy of divide and rule in Africa.

AFGHANISTAN'S TARAHI ARRIVES IN SOVIET UNION 4 DEC

TASS Interview

LD021256Y Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

["Bar Muhammad Taraki: Friendship Tested by Time"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, December 2, TASS--In connection with the forthcoming official friendly visit to the Soviet Union, Bar Muhammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council, prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, answered questions posed by a TASS correspondent.

Touching upon the internal situation in Afghanistan, he said: The April revolution transferred political power from the exploiter classes to the working class headed by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The past seven months have seen great revolutionary triumphs of our people. The people's support for the April revolution is gaining in scope with every passing day. The workers, peasants, artisans and intelligentsia feel in their everyday life the victorious results of the revolution.

They took the revolution with enthusiasm and visualize their fine future. Today, ample opportunities opened up for the entire people to actively and effectively decide their future.

In the field of foreign policy, the results of the April revolution have been reflected in the consistent stand which the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan took on major international problems. This stand is based on the principles of the movement of non-alignment, the defence of peace throughout the world, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, respect for the sovereignty and national independence of each country, the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and apartheid, on the principle of solidarity with socialist countries and the world working-class movement, the defence of the national liberation movements of the peoples of the world.

Touching upon Afghan-Soviet relations, Bar Muhammad Taraki emphasized that as a result of the April revolution the friendly fraternal ties between the two countries have grown still stronger. Our relations, he said, develop on the basis of full trust, mutual respect for sovereignty and national independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of each other and fruitful, mutually advantageous cooperation. The Afghan and Soviet people's friendship which has a sixty-year long history has stood the test of time.

Together with all comrades, friends and associates, I am looking forward with joy to the visit to the friendly and fraternal country, the Afghan leader said in conclusion. The Soviet Union was the first country to officially recognize the April revolution and the first country to which I am going after the April revolution. All this emphasizes the friendly and fraternal relations between our peoples and countries. I am confident that the results of the visit will promote their further development.

III. 4 Dec 78

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SOUTH ASIA

Kabul Departure

LD040920Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0825 GMT 4 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, 4 Dec, TASS--Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) Central Committee chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) left today for the Soviet Union on an official and friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government.

At Kabul Airport, which was decorated with national flags and bunting, N.M. Taraki was seen off by members of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, ministers, representatives of the DRA public, Soviet Charge D'Affaires V. Alekseyev and members of the diplomatic corps.

Moscow Arrival

LD041208Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0130 GMT 4 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] Vnukovo Airport was decorated with the state flags of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) and the USSR, as Nur Mohammed Taraki, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, arrived and was warmly welcomed by Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of USSR Council of Ministers; Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; Kashegov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials. At the airport an honor guard of the three services of the USSR armed forces--army, air force and navy-- was presented. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Nur Mohammed Taraki reviewed the ranks of the Soviet servicemen. The national anthems of the DRA and of the USSR were played.

LAND REFORM LAW 'MAJOR EVENT' in AFGHANISTAN

LD022222Y Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 2 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, December 2, TASS--The working people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan welcome the law on land reform recently adopted at the meeting of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan as Decree No 9 on land. It constitutes yet another important step along the path of progressive transformations in Afghanistan. Mass popular manifestations are taking place all over the country whose participants express full support for the new law which meets the century-old aspirations of the Afghan people.

The aim at eliminating the feudal relations in the public and economic life of the country and consolidating the unity between the working class and the peasantry. Implementation of the law will contribute to increasing agricultural production and improving supplies of foodstuffs for population.

The land reform law called upon to resolve the basic socio-economic problems of Afghanistan represents a major event in the socio-political life of the country, mobilising the broad strata of the population for an active participation in the building of a new life and contributes to the country's further movement along the path of progress.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RATIFIES SSV FRIENDSHIP TREATY

LD011758Y Moscow TASS in English 1729 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 1, TASS--The USSR Council of Ministers approved and submitted for ratification to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet the USSR-SSV Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, signed in Moscow on November 3, 1978.

Vietnamese Ratification

LD302040Y Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 30 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, November 30, TASS--The Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has unanimously approved and ratified the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, says the official report issued here today. The committee session was chaired by member of the Politbureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly Truong Chinh.

As is pointed out in the report, the committee has noted with great satisfaction that the signing of the treaty marks a new stage in the development of relations of in-destructible solidarity and friendship between the two countries on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The treaty accords with the aspirations and interests of the peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union, it is a contribution to strengthening solidarity between the two fraternal socialist countries and meets the aims and objectives of the U.N. Charter and the interests of peoples fighting for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

KAMPUCHEAN NATIONAL UNITY FRONT ESTABLISHED

LD031947Y Moscow TASS in English 1853 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, December 3, TASS--The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) reports that Kampuchean patriots held a congress, attended by representatives of different sections of the population, in one of the liberated areas of the country. It resolved to set up a Front for the National Unity of Kampuchea. A 14 men Central Committee was elected as the front's leading body. Heng Samrin became its chairman.

The congress unanimously approved a declaration on the objectives and tasks of the Kampuchean revolution, the agency points out. It contains an appeal to the people to unite and rise in struggle for toppling the reactionary clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary in the interests of creating peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral and nonaligned Kampuchea, building socialism.

Another decision taken is to establish a KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY (SPK) and a radio station "Voice of the Kampuchean People". The SPK issued its first news bulletin. The creation of a Front for the National Unity of Kampuchea, it says, answers the aspirations of the Kampuchean people which is waging resolute struggle against the present regime--a stonage of foreign reactionary forces, and for the establishment of a people's democratic government.

On the occasion of the formation of the front, the VNA reports, a meeting was held in one of the liberated areas of Kampuchea, whose participants pledged full support for the front's CC and expressed confidence that the Kampuchean people's struggle under the front's leadership will be crowned with complete victory.

JAPANESE CP SUCCESSES IN MIDTERM ELECTIONS NOTED

LD011624Y Moscow TASS in English 1255 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, December 1, TASS--TASS correspondent Gennadiy Rukovitskiy reports:

The Communist Party of Japan has won 48 seats in the midterm elections to the local administration bodies in November, thus increasing their representation by five persons. As a result, the deputy groups of the Communist Party have won the right to table their own draft resolutions in the municipal assemblies of the cities of Soka (Saitama Prefecture), Matsudo (Chiba Prefecture), Iiyama (Nagano Prefecture), Owase (Mie Prefecture), Maizuru and Ise (Kyoto Prefecture).

Speaking with a TASS correspondent, a spokesman for the headquarters of the Communist Party of Japan said that since the beginning of this year the number of communist deputies of the local administration bodies has grown by 69, while the ruling Liberal Democratic Party could increase its representation only by 17 persons. At present, 3,292 members of the Communist Party are deputies of 1,915 local assemblies. This makes more than a half of the total number of local administration bodies. The Communist Party of Japan has an overwhelming majority of 209 local bodies.

The success of the Japanese communists in the midterm elections to the local administration bodies is the more significant as it was achieved under the conditions of a fierce anti-communist campaign.

JAPANESE SOCIALIST PARTY DRAFT PLATFORM REVIEWED

ON301159Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 29 Nov 78 ON

[Ivanov Commentary]

[Excerpts] It is evident from reports reaching here that the Japanese Socialist Party [JSP] draft platform on security issues is based on the premise that in Asia and the Pacific conditions conducive to achieving a lasting peace should be created and the remaining causes of tension should be eliminated.

The draft platform reaffirms the JSP line against the U.S.-Japan security treaty. This opposition will contribute to the cause of strengthening peace in the Far East in which adherents to the Japan-U.S. military-political alliance are unexpectedly being supported by Peking.

Reactionary Japanese circles are heightening efforts to push through a rearmament policy. Therefore, it is very significant that the JSP reaffirm its strong stand against Japan's rearmament. Reactionary circles expect Peking's endorsement of their militarist ambitions to create doubt within the JSP about the concept of unarmed neutrality and also to lessen other reformist groups' opposition to such militarist ambitions.

The JSP's struggle to frustrate the ruling circles' attempt to expedite militarization, needless to say, not only accords with the interests of the Japanese people but also is conducive to fulfilling the world peace forces' desire to achieve comprehensive and complete disarmament.

However, Japanese press reports lead us to suspect that the authors of the draft are very inconsistent in their viewpoints. They have reportedly also discussed the question of what territorial claims Japan should make against the Soviet Union.

In our opinion, the inclusion of territorial claims against a neighboring country in the party platform has nothing to do with the general safeguarding of peace or the safeguarding of the livelihood of the Japanese people. Accordingly, the inclusion of the claims issue will make the authors of the draft deviate from the goals they themselves have set. Such an attitude will only benefit persons seeking to block the development of friendly Soviet-Japanese ties. That attitude is in accord with the interests of Peking's leaders who are trying to stir up border troubles everywhere in order to facilitate the realization of their international hegemonic ambitions and facilitate their designs on other nations' territories.

The JSP's participation in the campaign to press territorial claims against the Soviet Union will help the Japanese reactionaries realize their militarist plans and ultimately increase fascism in Japan. The draft falls short of realistically assessing the world situation and the situation in Asia. Its authors no doubt were influenced by Peking's notorious "three worlds" theory. Under its influence, they did not even bother to assess or even mention the Soviet Union's peace initiatives. On the contrary, they placed the United States and the Soviet Union, which is consistently pursuing a peaceful, coexistence policy, on the same plane and depicted the two nations as being equal in creating tension.

The authors of the JSP draft platform remain silent about Peking's sordid moves which, behind the slogan "Fight the Superpowers' Hegemony," is following an expansionist Han-first policy. These moves are graphically illustrated by China's ceaseless provocations against the Vietnamese people who have endured great suffering. The authors of the draft made no mention of this issue.

JAPANESE NUCLEAR INFORMATION CENTER FORMED

12031248Y Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 3 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, December 3, TASS--A group of prominent Japanese scientists set up a new organization, the All-Japan Information Centre on the Problems of Nuclear Energy. The centre's scientists are setting themselves as an object to make more active the movement in the country for the Japanese Government's observance of three non-nuclear principles--not to import, not to produce and not to possess. The functions of the organization include supervision of the strict observance of the principles by the government bodies.

GABRILOV BUDGET REPORT AT 29 NOV SUPREME SOVIET SESSION

LD011421Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Nov 78 pp 3-4 LD

[Apparent text of report delivered at 29 November USSR Supreme Soviet session by F.P. Garbusov, USSR minister of finance: "On the USSR State Budget for 1979 and the Implementation of the USSR State Budget for 1977"]

[Text] Comrade Deputies:

The USSR Council of Ministers is submitting the USSR state budget for 1979, the fourth year of the 10th 5-Year Plan, for your examination and approval. The budget embodies the plans elaborated by the CPSU for further boosting all sectors of the national economy, enhancing the people's well-being, and consolidating the Soviet Union's economic might.

The years of the 10th 5-Year Plan have been marked by large-scale achievements by the Soviet people in implementing the program of economic and social development adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress. These successes, in which our country rightly takes pride, have been achieved under the leadership of the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, that outstanding party and state figure of the day. In its activity the CPSU relies on the high level of political and labor activity of millions of working people who fully approve and support its domestic and foreign policy.

This year has been marked by the tremendous scope of the people's initiative and the socialist competition in honor of the adoption of the new USSR Constitution. The widespread movement for the elaboration of counterplans and stepped-up pledges and for a communist attitude toward labor has promoted the successful fulfillment and overfulfillment of the economic and social development plans. This year above-plan industrial output worth over 40 billion will be produced and sold as a result of the Soviet people's intensive labor. The overall volume of industrial production will increase 5 percent--16 percent over the first 3 years of the 5-year plan--while labor productivity in industry will increase 11 percent. During these years there has been a considerable increase in the country's scientific and technical potential, and Soviet science has made a substantial contribution to economic and social progress.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum aroused great labor enthusiasm. Remarkable successes have been achieved thanks to the selfless work of the kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers, the aid of the urban working people, and the party's great organizational and political work. In 1978 a record grain harvest of 235 million tons was obtained. During the 10th 5-Year Plan the harvest of cotton, sugar beets and other agricultural crops also increased and the output of livestock products rose.

The broad action program outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress to further boost the Soviet people's living standards is being implemented. In the first 3 years of the 5-year plan the population's per capita real income will grow 10.5 percent. Everywhere, in all sectors of the national economy, the raising of minimum wages for workers and employees has been completed. In many regions wages and salaries for average-paid workers in the non-productive sectors have been increased.

As a result of the growth in production and the rise in the population's income, there has been a considerable increase in the sale of goods, and their range has been expanded and their quality improved. Retail trade in comparable prices will increase 13.5 percent over the first 3 years of the 5-year plan.

Housing construction is being carried out rapidly in the Soviet Union. In the first 3 years of the 5-year plan about 32 million people improved their housing status.

The people's education, culture and art were further developed. Medical services for the population are being improved and expenditure on pensions and benefits from the state social security budget has increased. The total sum of social consumption funds earmarked for these purposes increased 17.1 percent in 1976-1978 to total over R300 billion.

On the basis of the growth in social production and national income, the 1978 USSR state budget will be 101.8 percent fulfilled for revenue and 101.1 percent for expenditure, with a surplus of budget revenue over expenditure of R2.2 billion. The revenue plan is being fulfilled by all the union republics.

Our country's successes in fulfilling the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress are great and indisputable. The CPSU urges the party, soviet and economic organs to reinforce the results achieved, mobilize existing reserves more fully, channel all the efforts, creative energy and initiative of millions of Soviet people into the successful fulfillment of the 1979 plan and the 10th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

The USSR State Budget for 1979

Comrade Deputies! The CPSU Central Committee plenum held on the eve of the USSR Supreme Soviet session approved in the main the drafts of the state plan for the USSR's economic and social development and the USSR state budget for 1979. The speech delivered at the plenum by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, profoundly analyzed and creatively generalized the results of the Soviet people's selfless labor so far during the 5-year plan and defined the fundamental political premises and main tasks for the successful fulfillment of the 10th 5-Year Plan for the development of the USSR's national economy.

The development of the USSR state budget for 1979 was based on the main directions adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress for the development of the national economy in the 10th 5-Year Plan, and the decisions of subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. The budget was compiled on the basis of the draft plan for the USSR's economic and social development for 1979. It insures, by the necessary means, the further growth of the country's economy, the improvement of the people's material and cultural living standard, and the strengthening of the state's defense might.

The revenue of the 1979 state budget is envisaged at R269.1 billion, and expenditure at R268.8 billion, with a surplus of R280 million.

The budget reflects measures to implement the tasks set by the Communist Party of further increasing production efficiency and work quality, making fuller use of reserves existing within the economy, and observing a policy of the strictest thrift with regard to material, manpower and financial resources.

The budget revenue was determined on the basis of the targets envisaged by the plan for the rise in social production and output quality, and the decrease in its prime cost.

Revenue from the main sources totals the following sums:

	Billion Rubles	
	1978 (ratified)	1979 (draft)
Revenue from the socialist economy	223.4	244.8
Including:		
Payments from state enterprise profits	78.6	81.1
Turnover tax	76.6	87.8
Social insurance contributions from state enterprises and organizations, income tax from kolkhozes, revenue from foreign trade, and other income	68.2	75.9
Payments by the population	23.0	24.3

The total profits of the national economy in 1979 have been fixed at R122.3 billion, or 9.5 percent more than in 1978. A considerable part of the profits--more than R50 billion--is left at the disposal of enterprises and associations to be utilized in accordance with the state plan in order to further develop production and provide material incentives for working people. Deductions from all sources into the economic incentives funds will total R28.9 billion--an increase of 6.4 percent over this year.

Turnover tax for 1979 was determined on the basis of the plan targets and the planned changes in production structure and in the range of output produced; it will increase 3.9 percent compared with the expected implementation [of the budget] for 1978.

In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum decisions, additional income tax concessions have been established for kolkhozes. Taking into account these concessions and also the planned volume of agricultural output and kolkhoz income, the revenue from income tax on kolkhozes was fixed at R699 million for 1979.

Taxes on the population were calculated on the basis of the wage fund envisaged by the plan and existing wage rates at the sum of R22.8 billion.

State budget expenditure in 1979 will increase 5.1 percent and will total the following sums for the main directions:

	Billion Rubles	
	1978 (ratified)	1979 (draft)
National economy	125.7	144.4
Social and cultural measures	87.6	91.2
Defense	17.2	17.2
Administration	2.1	2.3

The USSR state budget for 1979 provides the necessary resources for the implementation of a number of new measures aimed at raising the Soviet people's prosperity and increasingly equipping industry, agriculture and other sectors of the national economy with the latest technology.

In accordance with the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, measures to further improve the people's life are provided for 1979. The increase in the wages and salaries of middle-income personnel in the nonproduction sphere will be completed in all regions of the country; measures have been taken to further improve the material and everyday conditions of participants in the Great Patriotic War and a number of other measures have been implemented.

State expenditure on measures to raise the population's living standards from the beginning of the 5-year plan through [v raschete na] 1979 will total about \$11 billion. Moreover, the liquidation of the state internal loan bonds previously floated for subscription among the population and kolхозes will be continued.

In 1979 social consumption funds will reach \$110 billion--4.3 percent more than in 1978--and this will make it possible to raise the standards of service to the population by public health, education and cultural institutions.

Some \$19.9 billion are earmarked for the development of science--3.6 percent more than last year's appropriations. This will make it possible to strengthen the material and technical base of science, develop research work more extensively, and create the conditions for fruitful activity by scientists and for raising the efficiency of scientific research.

The financing of the national economy from the budget, the economy's own funds and bank credits will total \$280.3 billion, or 9.7 percent more than this year's expenditure. The appropriated resources will insure the implementation of measures for the accelerated development of the sectors of industry which are of the greatest importance for technical progress and the further upsurge of agricultural production.

The budget for next year takes into account measures to develop the Soviet Union's comprehensive economic relations with the fraternal socialist states. The implementation of the long-term targeted programs aimed at the joint solution of major national economic problems in energy, fuel and raw materials, machinebuilding, agriculture and the food industry will be a new stage in this cooperation.

The stable and mutually advantageous relations with the developing countries, which contribute to the growth of their national economies and economic independence, will continue to expand. Equitable and mutually useful trade and economic cooperation with the industrially developed capitalist states will continue.

The broad program of economic and social development envisaged by the 1979 plan targets and budget is a vivid manifestation of the indisputable advantages of the socialist economic system. It inspires Soviet people to new labor exploits in the name of strengthening the country's economic potential, further raising the people's living standards and strengthening peace throughout the world.

The Financing of Industry and Transportation

Comrade Deputies! Our country's industry is developing dynamically and steadily.
[paragraph continues]

In the years of the 5-year plan that have elapsed industry's fixed production capital has increased and been renewed, and its technical level has improved. The volume of output sold and of monetary accumulations has increased.

In 1979 industrial workers, guided by the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, must wage an even more persistent, purposeful struggle to further increase production efficiency and improve product quality. Industrial output will increase 5.7 percent next year.

The financing of industry from the budget, from enterprises' and economic organizations' own resources and from bank loans will total \$146.8 billion, or about 8.9 percent more than this year.

There will be an increase in investments in heavy industry, which is of decisive significance for the development of the entire national economy, above all in the fuel and energy sectors, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, the petrochemicals industry, machine-building, and other sectors which insure the acceleration of scientific and technical progress.

One of the main national economic tasks is to increase production, extend the product mix and improve the quality of consumer goods. In 1979 the financing of light, food, meat and dairy, fish and local industry, as well as consumer services, will be significantly increased. The total volume of finance for these sectors will increase 18.6 percent next year to total \$26.6 billion. This will make it possible to increase the rate of production of goods for the population and to satisfy their growing demands more fully.

A new manifestation of the Communist Party and government concern for extending the production of consumer goods is the resolution recently adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers "On Measures To Increase the Production of Children's Goods, To Improve Their Quality, and To Improve Trade in These Goods." The budget provides the necessary financial resources for this.

Priority significance for increasing industrial production efficiency and increasing monetary accumulations and budget income is attached to the steady growth in labor productivity. Next year, in accordance with the economic and social development plan, labor productivity in industry must increase 4.7 percent. This will provide more than 80 percent of the increase in industrial production and a significant proportion of the increase in accumulations. Leading enterprises are seeking to systematically increase labor productivity by means of mechanization and automation, by improving the organization of production and replacing manual work with machines.

The Shchekins method, the multemachine operators' movement and other progressive forms of labor organization are being developed increasingly widely. Their introduction, guaranteeing a high rate of growth in labor productivity, makes it possible to release some workers for other production areas. A good example of the fulfillment by all enterprises of labor productivity growth targets is also provided by the working people of Rostov, who are successfully resolving the task of "working without laggards."

However, it must be noted that not all enterprises devote the necessary attention to the effective use of labor resources. As checks have shown, serious shortcomings in this respect occur at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Construction, Road and Municipal Machinebuilding and the USSR Ministry of Construction Materials Industry.

The USSR Council of Ministers has set scientists and machine builders the task of insuring the creation and introduction of high-efficiency machine systems, making it possible to mechanize all technological processes--from obtaining the raw material to producing the end product. It is also incumbent on ministries, associations and enterprises to make fuller use of their potentials for mechanizing labor-intensive operations, and to elaborate measures to improve the use of labor resources and unconditionally fulfill targets for increased labor productivity.

A most important source of increased labor productivity is the technical reequipping of enterprises, and equipping them with new machines and equipment based on the achievements of modern science and technology. Next year the country's national economy will be supplied with machines and equipment to modernize and construct enterprises out of state capital investments to the extent of about 843 million, which will make it possible to raise still higher the level of enterprises' equipment with new machinery.

Improving the technical standard of production will make it possible to release about 1 million people for work in other sectors and transfer nearly 400,000 people from manual labor to mechanized and automated work. This will insure a further increase in labor productivity and a fall in the prime cost of industrial output.

Great significance for economic development is attached to the improved use of newly commissioned and existing fixed capital. Many enterprises are resolving this task successfully and are seeking the complete startup of designed capacities in a short time and even ahead of schedule. Among them are such major enterprises and associations as the Novolipetskii metallurgical plant, the Kishinevartovskoye "Neftegaz" Production Association, the Zhodino sewn and knitted goods factory and many others.

Alongside leading enterprises there are also those that violate norms for startup schedules and permit a reduction in returns to capital. Thus the national economy is undersupplied with a significant quantity of necessary output.

The CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum called on the party, economic cadres, and all working people to make careful and rational use of all that our country possesses and the national economy produces. Increase economic efficiency, social production, and national income depend to a great extent on the successful fulfillment of this task. That is why we need to decisively combat all kinds of wastage of raw and other materials, electricity and fuel, to observe the strictest policy of thrift in their use, and to introduce modern machinery and technology into production more widely.

Considerable successes in this respect have been achieved under the leadership of party organizations by leading collectives in the cities of Moscow, Leningrad and Chelyabinsk, in Kemerovskaya Oblast and in other parts of the country. They back up the pledges made with respect to saving fuel and energy resources and raw materials with the thorough elaboration of measures to improve production and technological regimes and with the application of an effective system of bonuses and sanctions.

Real savings in the expenditure of labor and material resources, it was indicated at the 25th CPSU Congress, are created by high output quality. Many enterprises have done a considerable amount in this respect. Today over twice as much industrial output has the state seal of quality as at the beginning of the 5-year plan. Good results have been achieved by enterprises in the electrical equipment industry, where more than 40 percent of all output is rated highly. At 5,000 enterprises in the industry a comprehensive system of controlling output quality, first elaborated at Lvov enterprises and approved by the CPSU Central Committee, is employed.

The Communist Party demands wider development of the struggle for high output quality and demands that the efforts of enterprises, scientists and designers be concentrated on this task. Organs of the USSR State Committee for Standards must display great exactingness in assessing products and awarding the state seal of quality, and must strive to revise outdated standards and introduce new, more progressive ones.

The draft plan envisages a reduction in the prime cost of industrial output in 1979 by an average of 0.4 percent, which will give an increase of about 40 percent in profits. The successful fulfillment of targets outlined by the plan will make it possible for enterprises to reduce production costs and increase their own income and the state's financial resources. The plan and budget for 1979 fix industry's total profit at 875.4 billion. It is incumbent on ministries, enterprises and economic organizations to adopt measures for the unconditional fulfillment of the profit plan and of pledges with respect to the budget.

In accordance with the increase in production planned for 1979, enterprises and organizations are allotted 86.4 billion--that is, 5 percent more than this year--from all sources for increasing the normative amount of their own circulating capital.

In 1976 the USSR Council of Ministers, attaching great significance to improving the use of circulating capital in the economy, set ministries, departments, and the Union Republic Councils of Ministers targets for accelerating their rate of turnover and reducing above-norm and superfluous stocks of raw materials, materials and equipment.

Several ministries, including the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems, the Ministry of Electronics Industry and several others, are successfully fulfilling 1976-1978 targets for introducing material resources into economic circulation. However, on the whole the fulfillment of these targets is proceeding slowly, especially at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy and the Ministry of Chemical Industry.

The 1979 budget provides for an acceleration in the rate of turnover of circulating capital by 2 days on average. Ministries, state committees, departments and the union republic Councils of Ministers must adopt all necessary measures to meet this target.

In 1979 it is planned to allocate 824.9 billion, or 4.1 percent more than this year, from all sources for the development of all forms of transportation and communications. These resources are being channeled into the technical equipment of transportation and communications. They will make it possible to insure more efficient operation and the timely, good-quality servicing of the requirements of the national economy and population for transportation and communications services.

The Ministries of Transport and Communications must strive to mobilize reserves within the economy, more fully to increase the efficiency of the utilization of transport and communication means, improve the quality of service to the population, and fulfill production and financial plans.

An increasingly important role in resolving the tasks put forward by the Communist Party is played by the economic education of the broad masses of working people. In a recent resolution the CPSU Central Committee, noting the positive experience of the Bashkiria party organization and others in the economic education of the working people, made it incumbent on party organs to adopt measures to further develop and improve it. (paragraph continues)

Here it is necessary to be guided steadily by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's instructions to the effect that the party's course toward efficiency and quality is not only the key task of the current 5-year plan but also the decisive factor in our economic and social development for many years to come, and a program for educating a whole generation of Soviet people.

In accordance with the 25th CPSU Congress decisions, the USSR Council of Ministers elaborated proposals to improve planning and intensify the influence of the economic machinery on increasing production efficiency and improving work quality. The implementation of the measures outlined will promote the implementation of the tasks put forward by the Communist Party for intensifying production, accelerating scientific and technical progress, increasing the productivity of social labor and improving output quality.

Ministries and departments, enterprises, associations and economic organizations, relying on the creative initiative and activity of the broad masses of working people, must elaborate concrete measures to unconditionally fulfill and overfulfill the plan and budget targets.

Financing Agriculture

Comrade Deputies: The Communist Party is devoting unremitting attention to the development of agriculture, regarding the boosting of agriculture as a most important task of the whole state and all the people. Since the CPSU Central Committee March (1965) Plenum, which ushered in a new stage in the development of the party's Leninist agrarian policy, the country's agriculture has taken major steps forward in economic and social respects.

The successes achieved over past years confirm most obviously the vital power and correctness of the party's course for boosting agriculture and transforming it into a highly developed sector of the economy.

The CPSU Central Committee July (1976) Plenum defined the main directions of the further development of agriculture and pointed out ways of solving the set tasks for increasing the production of agricultural crops and livestock products. The chief task set before agriculture by the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum is to secure comprehensive and harmonious development of all its sectors, and reliably supply the country with foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials.

Some \$47.5 billion will be channeled into agriculture in 1979 from the budget, from the sovkhozes' own resources and also from bank loans. Of this sum state capital investments will amount to \$23.5 billion. Moreover, from their own resources and from USSR Gosbank loans the kolkhozes will allocate \$11.5 billion for capital investment.

These resources will make it possible to build complexes for the production of livestock products on an industrial basis, poultry factories, farmsteads and other production installations, and to increase the delivery to agriculture of highly productive equipment--combines, trucks and tractors--and also of mineral fertilizers. In 1979 the commodity turnover of USSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture organizations will amount to \$22.3 billion or 7 percent more than in 1978.

Land reclamation will be developed further. Some 89.6 billion are being allocated from the state budget for the reclamation and improvement of land on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This will be 4.8 percent greater than the current year's expenditures.

A major place in the plan and budget is assigned to measures for the transformation of the USSR Non-Chernozem Zone's agriculture. In 1979 88.7 billion will be channeled toward capital investment and other expenditures to develop the Non-Chernozem Zone. This will promote the further upsurge of this vast zone, an increase in its output, and the improvement of the rural workers' labor and everyday conditions.

In accordance with the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) plenum, provision is made for increasing the procurement prices of milk, wool, karakul pelts, mutton and goat meat, potatoes and certain types of vegetables as of 1 January 1979. This is in order to enhance the material interest of the kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other farms in increasing the production and sale to the state of agricultural produce, and in order to strengthen these farms' economies and finances. For this purpose 83.2 billion will be allocated in next year's budget. The raising of procurement prices will be effected without any alteration in retail prices.

According to the CPSU Central Committee plenum's decision, state insurance of sovkhoz property against unfavorable weather conditions and natural disasters will be introduced in 1979 and this will help strengthen the sovkhozes' economic and financial position. In all, an insurance fund totaling 83.7 billion is being set up for the insurance of sovkhoz and kolkhoz property, and of this sum 41 billion is being allocated from the budget to pay the insurance premiums of sovkhozes whose profitability is low.

The profits of sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises are put at 83.7 billion, and almost all of this sum is retained for their own needs. Financial reserves in the form of free profit, depreciation, reserve funds and money for expanding and strengthening the economy totaling 82.2 billion will be left at the disposal of the sovkhozes.

Agricultural production specialization and concentration on the basis of interfarm cooperation and agroindustrial integration are a major reserve for the development of agriculture, the reduction of the prime cost of produce, and raising profitability. At the moment about 3,000 interfarm enterprises and associations are functioning in the country and these have at their disposal fixed capital worth 812 billion. These enterprises and organizations are operating with stability and each year they make profits of about 81 billion. In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum decisions, work on the development of interfarm cooperation must be pursued even more actively and systematically; it must be better thought out and must yield a greater return.

In a recent decision the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers expressed confidence that the party, soviet and agricultural organs, as well as kolkhoz and sovkhoz workers, guided by the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum resolution, will want a struggle for economy and thrift, to boost labor productivity in every way, to lower the prime cost of produce, and to enhance the efficiency of agricultural production.

Financing Capital Construction

Comrade deputies! Capital construction has an important part to play in implementing the tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress to improve production efficiency and work quality. The successful implementation of capital construction plans determines to a large extent both the tempo and ratios in the development of all national economic sectors and the improvement of the technical standard of social production.

In the 5-year plan so far more than 700 large industrial enterprises have been constructed, as well as a large number of other important projects. This year alone fixed capital worth over \$108 billion is being commissioned from state funds. A large program of construction work is planned for next year too.

The financing of state capital investments will increase by 4.9 percent in 1979, amounting to \$116.5 billion, including \$48.8 billion out of state budget funds. Large sums will go to housing and cultural and everyday construction. In 1979 capital investments in construction from all sources will amount to over \$17.5 billion, which will enable us to commission a total of 112.3 million square meters of housing.

The Communist Party attaches paramount significance to the fundamental improvement of the capital construction situation, to the prompt commissioning of sites and projects and the speedier starting of production capacities and commissioning of fixed capital.

An important way of solving this task is to increase the proportion of capital investments in the technical reequipping, modernization and expansion of existing enterprises. The 1979 plan and budget envisage using for these purposes approximately 60 percent of the total amount of capital investments for production projects. This will insure a more rapid increase in capacities while requiring the least expenditure.

At the same time, it should be said that some ministries, above all ferrous metallurgy and the gas industry, are not managing to fulfill plans for the technical reequipping and modernization of existing enterprises. They fail every year to assimilate the allocated funds and are prolonging construction intolerably. Ministries and construction organizations must eliminate existing shortcomings and insure the unconditional fulfillment of plan targets.

The concentration of capital investments and the reduction in the amount of unfinished construction are very significant in terms of the successful fulfillment of the 10th 5-Year Plan targets. In many ministries there are still great amounts of above-norm unfinished construction and capital investments continue to be dispersed.

The USSR Council of Ministers has charged USSR ministries and departments and the union republic Councils of Ministers with the task of effecting a maximum reduction in the number of new construction sites and projects and insuring strict observance of normative construction schedules. Accordingly, the 1979 plan and budget envisage using more than half of the total capital investments to finance projects which are nearing completion and are of great national economic significance.

The 1979 capital investment plan's increase in the proportion of expenditures on the acquisition of machinery and equipment will also contribute to improving production efficiency. At the same time, in many ministries the funds earmarked for this purpose are not always used effectively and above-plan stocks of uninstalled equipment continue to grow. These stocks are particularly large at construction sites under the USSR Ministries of Chemical Industry, Nonferrous Metallurgy and the Petrochemical Industry. In order to reduce above-plan stocks of equipment and materials the 1979 plan and budget envisage targets for mobilising internal resources in capital construction to the tune of \$2.3 billion.

The successful fulfillment of capital construction plans is determined in many respects by the quality of contract organizations' work. Many of them have achieved high indicators in their activity and are insuring the prompt commissioning of production capacities and fixed capital. But there are still many organizations which are failing to cope with the established targets; they are failing to make rational use of material and labor resources, allowing the prime cost of construction to rise, and failing to fulfill the profit plan.

The party Central Committee charges ministries and departments with the task of increasing demands on leaders of construction sites and enterprises for observance of established commissioning schedules, fuller utilization of construction production reserves, and improvement of work organization at construction sites.

An important condition of better efficiency in construction is the universal use of advanced labor organization experience, particularly the team contract, the fuller use of machinery and mechanisms, and the widespread use of progressive materials and structures.

The 1979 plan and budget envisages a reduction in the prime cost of construction and installation work and a \$7.7 billion profit. Construction ministries must implement specific measures to improve the organization of construction production and meet plan targets.

The improvement of capital construction efficiency depends in many respects on improving design estimate work and eliminating shortcomings in planning. However, there are still many cases of design estimate documentation drawn up too late and failing to correspond fully with the current level of scientific and technical development. The elimination of these shortcomings and the prompt and high-quality preparation of design documentation will contribute to an improvement in capital investment efficiency.

Banking and finance institutions must intensify control over the fulfillment of capital construction plans, over the business of finding more construction production reserves, reducing the prime cost of construction and installation work, and fulfilling profit plans and budget obligations.

Financing Trade and Consumer Services

Comrade deputies! The development of trade and consumer services for the population is an important, inalienable part of the socioeconomic program adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress.

The material and technical base of trade continues to expand and progressive forms of services for the population are being introduced in the 19th 5-Year Plan. [paragraph continues]

There has been a considerable increase in the sale of food, clothing, footwear, cultural and consumer goods, and other commodities to the population.

In 1979 retail trade will be R251 billion, which is 4.8 percent more than in 1978. The volume of sales of consumer services will reach R7.4 billion, an increase of 7.7 percent.

The financing of state and cooperative trade via the trading organizations' own funds and the budget will be R5.7 billion in 1979. In order to provide better services for the population it is planned to expand the network of stores and public catering enterprises, to increase their provision with the necessary equipment and stock, and to insure the further development and improvement of self-service and other progressive forms of trade.

It should be noted that there are many shortcomings in the work of trade enterprises and organizations. The trade organizations are still exerting only feeble influence on industry with a view to increasing the production of goods needed by the population and improving their quality. Unproductive expenditure and losses are great, particularly in the procurement, storage and sale of potatoes, fruit and vegetables.

The trade enterprises and organizations must insure the fulfillment of trade plans. They must better study the population's requirements and on this basis levy stricter demands on industrial enterprises for the production of consumer goods, and must wage a resolute struggle against losses and unproductive expenditure.

The union republic Councils of Ministers, the USSR Ministry of Trade, Tsentrsoyuz, and the ministries and departments which possess trading networks must step up their control over the work of trade, public catering, and consumer services enterprises and organizations as well as the efficient use of material resources, manpower and financial resources.

Expenditure on Sociocultural Measures

Comrade Deputies! The citizens' rights, proclaimed by the USSR Constitution, to health protection, material security in old age and sickness, to education and to the enjoyment of cultural achievements are being consistently implemented in the Soviet Union.

In accordance with the social program adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress, large-scale measures aimed at the fuller satisfaction of the population's sociocultural requirements have been carried out in the years of the 10th 5-Year Plan that have elapsed. In 1979 it is planned to earmark R91.2 billion for these purposes, which is R5.6 billion more than the sum approved in the 1978 budget.

Billion of rubles

	1978 (ratified)	1979 (draft)
Education	36.1	37.9
Health and physical culture	12.7	13.6
State social security and insurance	38.8	39.7

Displaying constant concern for Soviet people's health, the Communist Party is taking measures to further improve the population's medical services. In 1979 the number of hospital beds will increase by 60,000, reaching 3,266,000 and the construction and expansion of medical rooms, polyclinics, and sanatorium, resort and health (odorsovitelnyy) institutions will be continued. Medical industry output will increase 8 percent.

The Soviet Union pays great attention to developing and improving the people's education and to raising working people's educational and cultural standards. In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decisions adopted in the last few years, large sums are earmarked for further developing and improving general, vocational and technical, secondary specialized and higher education.

The budget earmarks more than R10 billion for financing schools and constructing new school buildings. In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decision on the gradual transition to supplying pupils in general education schools with free textbooks, the budget earmarks the necessary funds for this purpose.

The plan and budget provide for the further expansion of children's preschool education, which will contribute to broader participation by women in the country's production, sociopolitical and cultural life. More than R4.5 billion will be appropriated in 1979 for the maintenance of state children's preschool establishments for 1.2 million children.

The expansion of the system for training specialized and highly qualified cadres for all sectors of the national economy is of extremely great importance. It is planned to provide R5.1 billion to finance higher and secondary specialized educational establishments--a 3.1 percent increase over this year's expenditure. About 10 million people will undergo tuition in vuzes and tekhnika. The schools of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education System, which will train about 2.3 million people for the national economy next year, will undergo further development.

An extensive system of state social insurance and security aimed at satisfying the population's diverse material requirements exists in the Soviet Union. The state social insurance budget in 1979 will total R32.3 billion, including R7.5 billion for temporary disability, pregnancy and childbirth grants. Some R29.9 billion is being appropriated in 1979 for the payment of state pensions to workers and employees and the provision of pensions for kolkhoz members.

The ministries, departments, union republic Councils of Ministers, and local soviets must insure the most efficient expenditure of the funds earmarked for social and cultural measures.

Financing Defense and Management

Comrade Deputies! The Communist Party and Soviet Government, following our state's fundamental law, its new Constitution, are steadily implementing a Leninist peace policy and advocate strengthening the peoples' security and broad international cooperation.

The Soviet Union, consistently implementing the program adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the peoples' freedom and independence, has repeatedly submitted proposals on problems of disarmament. [paragraph continues]

The most important were advanced in Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speeches and submitted by the Soviet Union for consideration at the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament.

However, aggressive imperialist circles are resisting detente in international relations, whipping up the arms race, and trying to achieve military superiority. Under these conditions our state is showing necessary concern for strengthening the country's security and defense capability and reliably guarding its borders. The USSR state budget for 1979 provides for defense spending to the tune of R17.2 billion, which amounts to 6.4 percent of all expenditures.

Comrade Deputies! For the fuller and more efficient utilization of the potential of developed socialism it is necessary to work actively on improving the management and organization of economic activity.

In recent years USSR ministries and departments and union republic Councils of Ministers have implemented a number of measures to improve the organizational structure of economic management, to introduce automated control systems into practice, and to reduce the cost of maintaining the apparatus. In the first 3 years of the 5-year plan the budget secured a saving of R5.1 billion as the result of reducing management costs, and this was used for economic and cultural development.

Work will be continued next year on improving management of industry, eliminating superfluous links in the management of associations and sectors, and improving the management system in construction and other sectors. The 1979 budget envisages saving R1 billion in management costs on the basis of these measures.

Financial organs must everywhere exercise control over the implementation of the planned measures by ministries and departments and insure that the budget receives the planned saving.

The Communist Party, implementing great plans for economic and cultural building, demands, of management workers efficient and harmonious work, increased organization, discipline and responsibility, and a Leninist work style.

Union Republic State Budgets

Comrade Deputies! The unbreakable friendship, close cohesion and mutual assistance of the Soviet Union's peoples is the greatest strength of socialist society and its tremendous property.

In the years of the 10th 5-Year Plan all the union republics have achieved major new successes in communist building through the joint struggle to implement the historic 25th CPSU Congress decisions. The plan and budget for 1979 provide for the further development of their economies and cultures. The sum of the state budgets of all the union republics will total R117.1 billion--which is 6.6 percent higher than their budgets adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet for 1978.

The union republics' draft state budgets for 1979 appear in the following sums:

1979 Draft (million rubles)

RIFOR

64,304

Ukrainian SSR	20,018
Belorussian SSR	5,097
Uzbek SSR	4,926
Kazakh SSR	7,862
Georgian SSR	1,943
Azerbaijan SSR	1,864
Lithuanian SSR	2,273
Moldavian SSR	1,550
Latvian SSR	1,505
Kirgiz SSR	1,365
Tadzhik SSR	1,189
Armenian SSR	1,279
Turkmen SSR	929
Estonian SSR	981

Financing of the union republic national economies from the budget, the economies' own funds and bank loans has been set at \$111.2 billion, or 7 percent more than this year. These funds will be directed, above all, toward further developing the light, food and local industries, agriculture, and housing and municipal services. Spending on education, culture, public health and social security has been set at \$58.8 billion, or an increase of 5.1 percent. The funds being allocated will insure further development of the national economies of all the union republics and the fuller satisfaction of the population's sociocultural needs.

The union republic's state budgets are fully provided with the necessary resources as the result of receipts from the republican economy and deductions from statewide revenues.

The USSR Council of Ministers submits for ratification by the USSR Supreme Soviet its report on the implementation of the USSR state budget for 1977. The budget was fulfilled to the tune of \$247.8 billion for revenue, or 102.3 percent of the plan, and \$242.8 billion for expenditure, or 100.4 percent, with a surplus of revenue over expenditure of \$5.0 billion. Detailed information on individual items of revenue and expenditure is contained in the report distributed to deputies.

Comrade Deputies! The Soviet people, led by the Communist Party, are summing up with satisfaction the results of their labor and heroic efforts to fulfill the plan targets for the first 3 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan.

Our country is entering the fourth year of the 5-year plan in an atmosphere of great new enthusiasm. The mass socialist competition to accelerate production growth rates, raise production efficiency and work quality, and fulfill the 10th 5-Year Plan successfully is spreading increasingly widely. This creates firm confidence that the plan targets for 1979 will not only be fulfilled but overfulfilled, and that the Soviet people will take a new step along the path of realizing the 25th Communist Party Congress decisions. (applause)

PREPARATORY COMMISSION EXAMINES SHORTCOMINGS IN AGRICULTURE

LEJ01417Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Nov 78 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[V. Kurasov report: "So That the Grainfield Becomes More Generous"]

[Text] The deputies' joint preparatory commissions created by the standing commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities are continuing their preliminary examination of the draft state plan for economic and social development and the country's draft state budget for 1979, of progress in fulfilling the 1978 plan and of the report on the execution of the USSR budget for 1977.

...The scheduled session of the preparatory commission on agriculture. [as published] This preparatory commission is headed by Ivan Petrovich Lyenko, chairman of the Kievskiy Oblispolkom. The commission's members have many years experience of preparatory work before USSR Supreme Soviet sessions at which the country's plans and budgets have been approved.

S.P. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan, reported to the deputies on the indicators in the agriculture section of the state plan for the USSR's economic and social development for 1979 as well as on the preliminary results of the fulfillment of this year's plan. The main tasks facing fieldworkers are to insure the further increase and greater stability of agricultural production and to boost the efficiency of farming and livestock-raising by every means in order to completely satisfy the population's food requirements and industry's raw material needs. It is also important to create the necessary state reserves of agricultural produce.

The successful solution of these tasks depends above all on how consistently the comprehensive program to further intensify agricultural production is implemented by the party. The foundations of this program were set forth clearly by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum. His report stressed again the need to achieve the comprehensive dynamic development of all sectors of agriculture and to provide the country reliably with food and agricultural raw material, with increasing agricultural production providing for further considerably improvement in the people's living standards. "At the same time," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted, "we must augment our efforts to narrow the gap between living conditions in the city and countryside in terms of material and cultural and consumer services."

A comprehensive approach to the tasks facing the Soviet countryside in the fourth year of the current 5-year plan has been the main working principle of the deputies' preparatory commission on agriculture. I recall the following episode.

The chairman of the preparatory commission called on representatives of those USSR ministries and departments criticized in the USSR Gosplan and USSR Ministry of Finance reports and in deputies' speeches to speak. Some of those invited to mount the rostrum did not. Then Ivan Petrovich Lyenko said that such passiveness was incomprehensible. If the deputies considered it expedient that a representative of a particular department attend the session, then they were counting on his active participation in the discussion of the questions raised. "Listen and keep quiet" is a form of work unacceptable for our sessions," the preparatory commission chairman said. "We invited those whose activity is most closely linked with agricultural production. That means you must give accounts, provide proof, and argue."

A businesslike, constructive discussion began. The state plans to channel R47.5 billion into agricultural development in 1979. How to achieve the fullest return from this colossal sum is what now worries the deputies above all. The sessions touched on the questions of improving management of agricultural production, increasing crop yields, insuring strict observance of agrotechnical requirements, and production specialization and concentration. Serious attention was paid to land reclamation and irrigation work, selective breeding, and the construction of livestock complexes.

Next year a considerable expansion of agriculture's equipment stock is planned. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes will receive hundreds of thousands of tractors, trucks, combines and excavators. But is this equipment always used efficiently, and does its quality always meet present-day requirements? On familiarizing themselves with the results of the present agricultural year, the deputies noted that this is unfortunately now always the case. There are still long work stoppages due to spare part shortages and nonobservance of operating rules. Serious criticism was leveled against the machinebuilders. In particular the deputies noted design shortcomings in the SMD-5 "Sibiryak" grain harvesting combine.

In their speeches the deputies linked questions of improving agricultural production efficiency and quality very closely with the improvement of field and farmstead workers' housing conditions and the expansion of consumer services, trade and public catering enterprises in the countryside and the development of health services.

Having heard reports from the country's corresponding ministries and departments and having studied the materials submitted to it, the deputies' preparatory commission on agriculture set about the next stage--elaborating proposals for the agricultural sections of the 1979 plan and budget for incorporation in the conclusions of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities standing commissions.

SHITIKOV CHAIRS MEETING OF PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN KREMLIN

LD011708Y Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 1 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 1, TASS--A general meeting of the USSR Parliamentary Group was today held in the Kremlin under the chairmanship of Aleksey Shitikov. It heard a report by head of the delegation of the USSR Parliamentary Group Vitaliy Ruben on participation in the work of the 65th conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Bonn.

The members of the USSR Parliamentary Group approved of the work done by the delegation at the conference.